ICHIRACI TOSUISHA SPECIAL COMICS

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Before the Storm 20

杉浦志保

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SILVER DIAMOND シルバーダイヤモンド

20

杉浦志保

冬水社

9784864230025

1920979005624

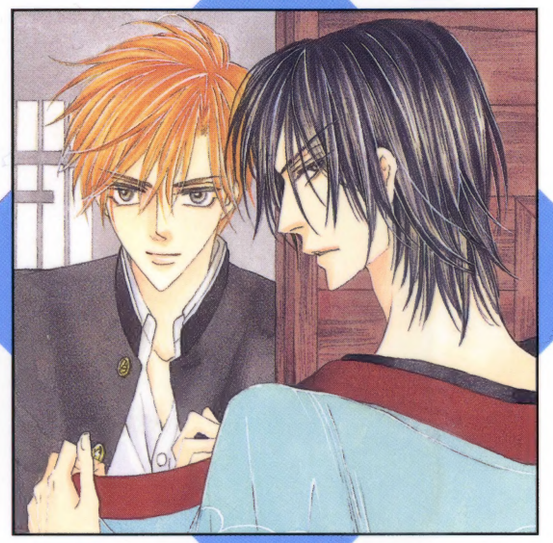
ISBN978-4-86423-002-5

C0979 ¥562E

Tosuisha

Price [592Yen+Tax]

SILVER DIAMOND 20



ICHIRACI Comics

[About the Volume]

An engaging alternate universe fantasy. The Ayame Prince speeding up the destruction, vs. Hoshiminokoto guiding the people, vs. Rakan and the rest making their way to the final steps to the capital!! Where will the fight to seize their fates lead to?! The 4-page extra is a must-see.☆They all participate in a pillow fight!!

SUGIURA SHIHO-SENSEI'S COMICS

SILVER DIAMOND 1~20
KOORI NO MAMONO NO MONOGATARI GAIDEN
CINDERELLA (BOY) KAKURITSURON
ISAGI-KOJIMA

<TOSUISHA BUNKOS>
KOORI NO MAMONO NO MONOGATARI ALL 14 VOLUMES
MOTTO!! KOORI NO MAMONO NO MONOGATARI
~ILLUSTRATION & DATA FILE~

DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF POINTS YOU ACCUMULATE FROM THE POINT COUPONS AT THE BOTTOM RIGHT CORNER, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO EXCHANGE THEM FOR GOODS THAT CAN ONLY BE ACQUIRED THROUGH COLLECTING POINTS. FURTHERMORE, YOU MAY ALSO USE THE POINTS YOU COLLECT AS MERCHANDISE COUPONS (0.5 POINTS = 25 YEN) AND EXCHANGE THEM FOR MERCHANDISE BEING SOLD VIA MAIL ORDER.

EXCHANGING OF POINTS IS ONLY FOR MAIL ORDER APPLICATIONS. FOR MORE DETAILS, YOU CAN ORDER THE STUB FOR THE POINT EXCHANGE VIA "FREE DIRECT MAIL" FROM THE ADDRESS PROVIDED IN THE PUBLICATION DATA.

0.5 POINT

TOSUISHA HOMEPAGE
http://www.tosuisha.co.jp/

IMODE VERSION HOMEPAGE
http://www.tosuisha.co.jp/i/

● THIS IS MITAMA-SAMA. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A DREAM OF MINE SINCE I WAS YOUNGER TO HAVE SERPENTS APPEAR IN A MANGA, SO I AM EXTREMELY HAPPY THAT I WAS ABLE TO DRAW THEM HERE. BY THE WAY, ALL THE SERPENTS ARE WHITE AND ARE NAMED AFTER THINGS THAT GIVE OFF A WHITE GLOW. THOUGH, SOMETIMES I USE THE CHARACTER FOR WHITE ITSELF (白) IN THEIR NAMES... YEAAH. IT'S SURPRISINGLY HARD TO COME UP WITH NAMES FOR THEM.

MAIL ORDER POINT COUPONS ARE INCLUDED FOR ALL PUBLISHED COMICS (FOR BOTH FIRST AND SECOND EDITIONS) EVER SINCE OCTOBER 2001. THE COUPONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BOTTOM-RIGHT CORNER OF THE BACK COVER OF THE COMICS.

SILVER DIAMOND 20

シルバー　ダイヤモント

杉浦志保

すぎうらしほ

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[First Appearance]

Chapter 58 Ichi*Raci Jan. Edition (2009/11/20)
Chapter 59 Ichi*Raci Mar. Edition (2010/1/20)
Chapter 60 Ichi*Raci Apr. Edition (2010/2/20)
Extras Round 1 - A breather (mostly for me) [...] (2010/5/20)

*Ichi*Raci Comics No.189*

SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

THE SOLE MEMBER OF THE SENROH FAMILY, AND HAS BEEN GOING THROUGH THE CYCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH FOR MORE THAT 250 YEARS NOW.

treasures

feels he has the same fate with

A KIND-HEARTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. HAS THE POWER OF THE SANOME, THE ABILITY TO GROW THE ALTERNATE WORLD'S PLANTS AT WILL. HAS THE SAME FACE AS THE PRINCE IN THE CAPITAL.

siblings who have the same face?

ALTERNATE WORLD CAPITAL

HAS AYAME POWERS THAT WITHERS PLANTS BY ABSORBING ITS NUTRIENTS.

Enemies

using each other

THE PRINCE'S SOLE AIDE.

THE SOLE MALE IN SHIGEKA, THE FAMILY THAT PRODUCES SANOMES. THE SNAKE KOH IS HIS COMPANION.

valued comrades

Siblings

HAS A NUMBER NAME.

valued comrades

Cooperating with

HEAD OF THE SHIGEKA FAMILY.

Real Siblings

THE LEADER.

HAS A NUMBER NAME.

Comrades

ALTERNATE WORLD FRONTIER

EX-FRONTIER GUARDS
SANOME PRINCE'S GUARDS

◆ONE DAY, A PERSON FROM AN ALTERNATE WORLD NAMED CHIGUSA FALLS INTO RAKAN'S GARDEN. HE CALLS RAKAN, WHO CAN GROW PLANTS AT WILL, A "SANOME" AND TELLS HIM THAT HE NEEDS HIM.◆ RAKAN GOES TO THE ALTERNATE WORLD WITH CHIGUSA AND THE OTHERS. HE, AS THE SANOME PRINCE, THEN TRAVELS ON TO THE CAPITAL, WHERE THE AYAME PRINCE RESIDES, TO RETURN THE GREENERY IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD. ◆ CHIGUSA, WHO HOSHIMINOKOTO BROUGHT TO LIFE AS THE "DEATH GOD", REMEMBERS ALL HIS MEMORIES, AND MANAGES TO EVOLVE THE "POWER" OF THIS EYES.◆ MEANWHILE, IN THE CAPITAL, NARUSHIGE REMEMBERS THE BARGAIN HE ONCE MADE WITH MITAMA. FURTHERMORE, HE WAS CORNERED, SO HE ACCEPTS THE DEAL TO BECOME THE PRINCE'S PUPPET.◆ KINREI AND THE PRINCE FIND OUT THE TRUTH. IN ORDER TO AVOID HOSHIMINOKOTO'S INFLUENCE, THE PRINCE SEPARATES FROM KINREI AND ACTS ON HIS OWN. HE FIRMLY RESOLVES TO DESTROY EVERYTHING.◆ DURING HIS JOURNEY, RAKAN RECEIVES A REQUEST TO MAKE SOME FLOWERS GROW FROM SOME VILLAGERS. HOWEVER, THAT WAS SOMETHING HOSHIMINOKOTO TOLD PEOPLE EVERYWHERE ABOUT. AS A RESULT, RAKAN ACTS JUST AS HE SAID, CAUSING PEOPLE IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD TO START CALLING HOSHIMINOKOTO AS THE "GOD THAT SHINES IN THE SAND"...?!

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE READ VOLUMES 1-19!!

STORY&CASTS

Before a Storm

Hello~!
I can't believe we're already at the 20th volume! I'm panicking right now.
If you're wondering why, it's because I remembered just now that I've been planning on having this extra before the 19th volume comes out, and I totally didn't realize what volume we're on...
Thank you very much to all those reading the manga! ✿
Sorry, I'll do my best to end it as soon as I can.

Okay, I'll be babbling a lot this time.
It has nothing to do with this being the 20th volume; it's because I was able to draw the pillow fight contest!
The one I've been longing for!
As for the reason why I want to draw the pillow fight,
I occasionally have a quick chat with writers and such on screentones,
and, well, I want to apply cute screentones on fluffy objects such as futons, pillows and cushions!
And I simply wanted to tell you all in detail the adorable screentones I like!

.....And a wonderful setting that combines those desires, interests and profits (work) was a pillow fight contest.....

Anyway, this volume's manga extra has my commentary regarding the cute screentones at the bottom, which probably makes you wonder what the heck it's for.
It's simply an interest of mine.
It only says "This screentone is cute" for the most part,
So you don't need to read it. I just wanted to include it.....

However, I think it may be rather redundant to what I said at a corner in "Pafu"*, where the interviewee's likes are mentioned.
I talked for a whole page regarding my love for screentones.
To those who have read that interview, please accept my apology.

By the way, about what I wrote there, it's not that I like applying screentones,
but rather, I like the screentones themselves.
They are just such cute tools.

All right, see you later!

*T.N.: "Pafu" is the name of a manga information magazine for women. There's actually a couple of translations of Sugiura's interviews at Pafu on the web, if anyone wants to read it...

SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

THUD
!
GULP
"BY DRINKING THIS,"
"YOU WILL BECOME A SERVANT UNDER THE PRINCE'S CONTROL."
.....
MY MIND...
...AND BODY ARE BECOMING...
...SOMEWHAT FUZZY.
IT'S AS IF THE AYAME POWER...
...IS REACTING WITH THE PRINCE'S BLOOD THAT I DRANK.....
!

I...
TELL "YORIBASHI YORIAKI"...
...HAVE A REQUEST.....
.....
SHIGEYUKI-SAMA!
OH RIGHT! I SHOULD AT LEAST.....
AT THE VERY LEAST...
.....ALL OF YOU ARE...
AND THAT THE DRUG KILLS PEOPLE.
...THAT RIKKA-SAN COLLAPSED BECAUSE OF HIS DRUG.
CLINK
TELL...
...ONLY BEING USED BY KINREI AND THE PRINCE.

IF I'M NOT CAREFUL, HE MIGHT...
...KILL ME TO SILENCE ME...
.....
PRINCE.
...NARUSHIGE.
THT INFORMATION ...
...YOU FORCED ONTO ME IS UNNECESSARY.
THUMP
I VALUE MY LIFE...
I SHAN'T SAY ANYTHING OUT OF TURN.
...GOING TO BETRAY YOU.
...I AM NOT...
AND PLEASE DO NOT FORGET...
...THAT THE "SHIGEKAS" ARE NEEDED TO MANAGE THE SANOME.
I NEVER CARED...
...FOR THOSE PEOPLE'S LIVES.

The "Prophecy"

THUMP
!?
!
WE CAN'T DENY IT RIGHT NOW.
WE CAN'T EXPLAIN EITHER
HOSHIMI NOKOTO'S "SHIN NO SAND"
...IS SCATTERED AMONGST THE REGULAR SAND!
SLIDE
SLIDE
SLIDE
IT'S FALLING?!
WHOA! THE MOUNTAIN OVER THERE..

KURO! WE'RE GOING BACK!
UM, EXCUSE US!
WE'RE GOING OVER THERE!
AH, OKAY!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, YOUR MAJESTY!!
Please take care!"
RAKAN, THIS IS BAD.
HUH?
THERE'S A MOB OF AYAMES...
...AT THE TOP OF THAT MOUNTAIN! THERE'S A VILLAGE NEAR THEM...
SLIIIDE
OI, OVER THERE.
THE MOUNTAIN IS SINKING!
THE MOUNTAIN CRUMBLED!
HAS IT CEASED?
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT A MOUNTAIN WOULD REALLY SINK...
GOING NEAR IT IS DANGEROUS! IT MIGHT STILL BE SINKING!
HMM?

THAT BLACK . ...
WHAT'S THAT?
ALL I SEE IS BLACK LAND ON THE ROCKS...
THOSE BLACK PARTS ARE AYAMES?
ZOOMS IN
WHERE?
IT'S AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CLIFF.
WE CAN'T CROSS IT!
AO, TAKE THESE PLEASE!
WOOSH...
Crowded...
AH! I SEE IT! YOU'RE RIGHT!!
AYAMES!!
That's intense!!
TIME LAG.
HUH?
Whoa! That's disgusting!!
Very disgusting!!

BANG
BANG
BANG
?!
THUMP
ARROWS?!
THUMP
THUMP
A MOB OF AYAMES?!
THEY'RE GOING TO ENTER THE SHELTER! WE NEED TO KILL THEM.
THERE ARE TOO MANY, WE CAN'T GET CLOSE TOO THEM!
RUSTLE
GOUSHI, HOLD THIS FOR ME.
WE WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME!
CHIGUSA, THERE ARE TOO MANY!
KOH!
DOING THIS WILL PROBABLY BE FASTER.

WHAT ARE THESE?!

WOOSH

DROP

THEN, THIS IS OL' OVER THERE'

THE AYAMES AREN'T COMING OUT?

A SHRUB?

FWUMP

PANTING

WH

I'LL BE BORROWING HIM, NARUSHIGE!

THERE'S SOMEONE ON THE OTHER SIDE'

THEY'RE CRUMBLING

WHAT THE? THE AYAMES

...IS LIKE A BRIDGE.
THE PLANT...
...YES.
SO IT IS...
...THE SANOME PRINCE!
IT'S JUST AS HOSHIMINOKOTO SAID!

They say it's a thorn tree
I see
HUH?
WHEN AO WAS WATCHING OVER THE VILLAGES NEARBY EARLIER,
Yes
THE PEOPLE WERE TALKING ABOUT HOSHIMINO-KOTO.
APPARENTLY, A FEW DAYS BEFORE YOU APPEARED,
HE TOLD THEM THAT THE SUNRISE FLOWERS WOULD BLOOM.
THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGES NEARBY WERE MAKING A FUSS SAYING, "IT HAPPENED LIKE HE SAID IT WOULD!"
WHAT? THEN...
THIS MEANS THAT HOSHIMINOKOTO "PREDICTED" IT?!
.....NO.

Whoa!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
THE MAN WHO ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR THE SUNRISE FLOWERS TO BE BLOOMED...
.WAS FROM A FAMILY WITH STRINGS ATTACHED TO THEM.
A "STRING"?
YES.
.....
I THINK HE USED A "STRING".
THEN THAT MEANS...
..THAT HOSHIMINO-KOTO GUIDED THAT MAN...
YES.
...TO MAKE ME BLOOM THOSE FLOWERS?
WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?
ISN'T IT BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HOSHIMINO-KOTO WANTED TO HAPPEN?
FOR HIS PURPOSES.
IN THE BOOK, THERE'S A SAYING...
...THAT "GOOD THINGS HAPPEN...
...ON THE YEAR THOSE SUNRISE FLOWERS BLOOM", AFTER ALL.
EVERYONE WOULD NATURALLY FEEL EXTREMELY HAPPY IF A FLOWER LIKE THAT BLOOMS.

SINCE IT HAPPENED AFTER THE FAKE PROPHECY,
AND THAT IT'S "WHAT ONE WOULD EXPECT FROM THE CHILD OF GOD."
IT ALSO GIVES THE IMPRESSION THAT "THE SANOME PRINCE IS LEGITIMATE."
.....THAT WOULD MAKE THE PEOPLE HAPPY...
THAT'S ACTUALLY WHY EVERYONE IS SO PLEASED
BECAUSE "THE SANOME PRINCE PASSED BY"...
"GOOD THINGS"?
"GOOD THINGS."
See.
REALIZES
IT ALSO GIVES OFF THE FEELING THAT "THE WORLD WILL BE SAVED"
THAT'S DEPRESSING.
LEADING ME INTO BLOOMING THE FLOWERS.
.. BUT ISN'T IT LIKE A STAGED GOOD FORTUNE?
"HOSHIMINOKOTO"
"IS DEFINITELY GOD."
...OBJECTIVE IS PROBABLY.....
.....PUTTING THAT ASIDE,
HOSHIMINOKOTO'S...

...THAT HE'S NOT GOD.....
I WISH I COULD HAVE TOLD THEM..
...I GUESS THAT'S TRUE...
WOULD PROBABLY INCREASE EVEN MORE THAT WAY.
EVEN THOUGH HOPE...
EVEN THOUGH THE PEOPLE EARLIER WERE ALL HAPPY, EXCLAIMING THAT "HE'S GOD".
BUT THAT DEFINITELY IS...
...SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE HELPED.....
DAMMIT
AFTER ALL, WE CAN'T LET HOSHIMINO-KOTO HEAR ABOUT IT.
WELL, WE COULDN'T HAVE TOLD THEM.
It can't be helped.
YEAH,
BUT...
HE MADE CHIGUSA SUFFER SO MUCH,
AND YET PEOPLE THINK HE'S GOD IT PISSES ME OFF!
WELL, IT IS TOUGH.
...SEEING SMILES THAT WAY.

...I'M CONTENT...
JUST BY HAVING RAKAN THINK THAT.
THANK YOU.
CHIGUSA...
HE'S ALWAYS GETTING MAD FOR MY SAKE.....
Let me hear you badmouth h m later
Okay ☆
Your Majesty
THAT'S QUITE A LINE YOU JUST SAID THERE, YOUR MAJESTY.
Ahhh... I really want to talk trash about him out loud.....
He's so annoying
HMM? WHAT?
YOU DID SOMETHING TO AO?
ALL RIGHT
Okay Thanks
IT'S DONE, AO TSUBAKI.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
APPARENTLY, THEY HAVE A SWITCH LIKE THAT,
SO I LOOKED AT THE CIRCUITS AND GOT THEM GOT TO CHANGE IT.
As usual
It's an explanation we can't understand
LEND HIS VOICE?!
OR RATHER, HIS CHIRPS AND CRIES
YEAH APPAR-ENTLY,
AO IS GOING TO LEND US HIS VOICE, YOU SEE.

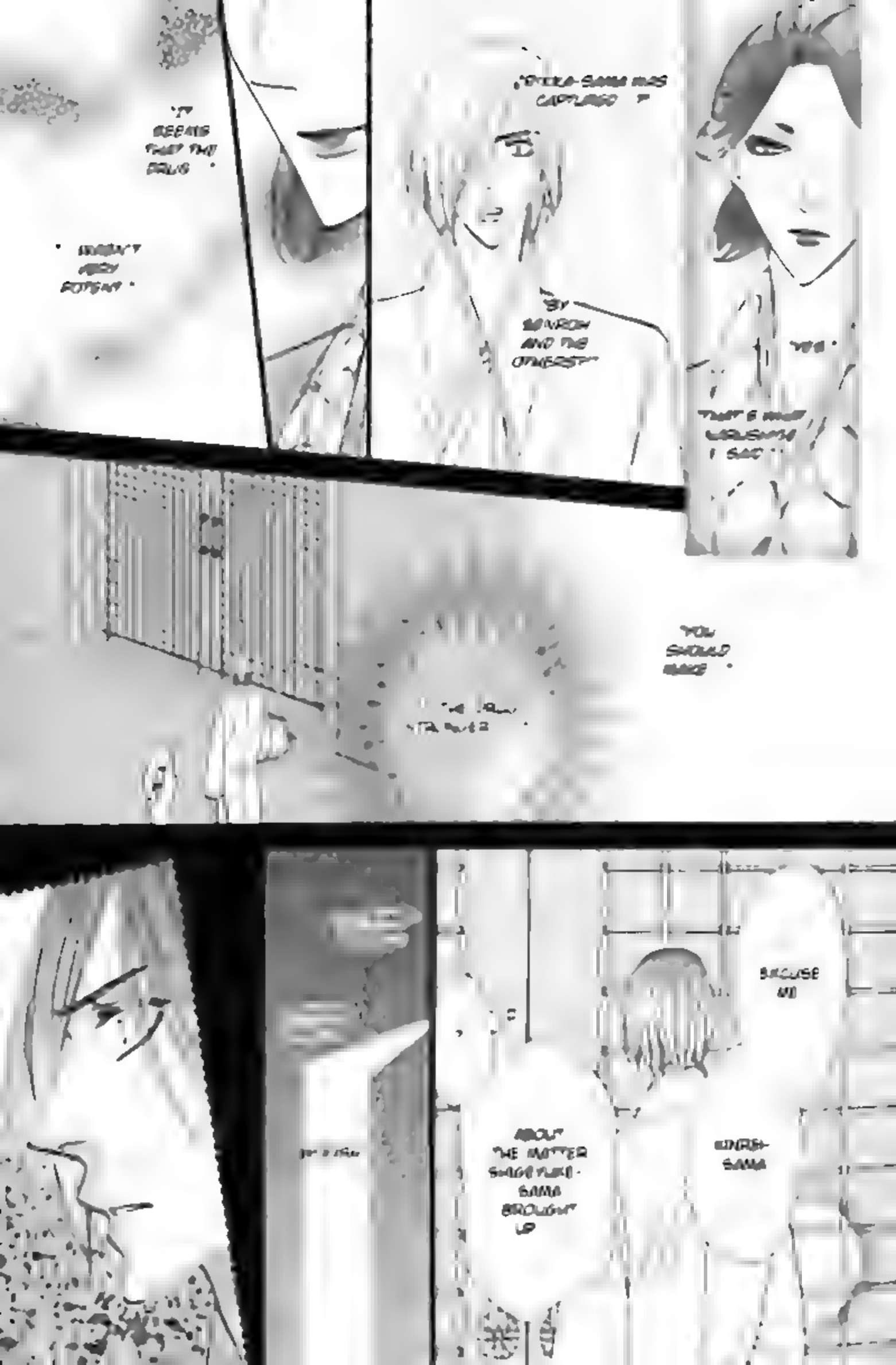
YOUR MAJESTY?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
WHOA, AO TALKED?!
AND WITH A GIRL'S VOICE TOOOO?!
KARAKU-SAN!
WHAT? KARAKU?
THE ONE THAT'S FRIENDS WITH THE BIRDS?
I CAN HEAR YOU! RAKAN HERE.
AH, YOUR MAJESTY!
WOOOW, IT'S TRUE!
IT'S THE PRINCE'S VOICE. THAT'S AMAZING!
THE BIRD SPOKE...
IN A CHEERFUL VOICE ..
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, AS ALWAYS!

..changed to a lady-killer's voice
The bird's voice..
OH! WHAT A NICE VOICE!
How lovely
THE BIRDS CAN FLIP THAT SWITCH ON THEMSELVES
THE "TSUBAKIS" KNOW HOW TO DO IT
OKAY.
I'LL TELL THEM.
HAVE THE OTHER BIRDS DO IT TOO.
KARAKU.
SENROH HERE.
BIRDS WITH THE SAME NAME...
TSUBAKI
椿
...SHARE INFORMATION AMONGST THEMSELVES IN THEIR HEADS,
SO EACH OF THEM ARE APPARENTLY ABLE TO REPRODUCE...
...AND SHARE WITH EVERYONE ELSE THE VOICED WORDS THEY HEAR.
SAME GOES FOR THE VOICES OF BIRDS WITH DIFFERENT NAMES AS WELL.

HUH?
THEN, IF THAT'S THE CASE...
IF "HOSHIMI-NOKOTO" SAYS ANYTHING,
PICK UP THE NEARBY SOUNDS, AO TSUBAKI
How conve- nient~
WE CAN HEAR WHAT THE PEOPLE ON THE OTHER END ARE SAYING?
WITH THIS,
IT'LL BE EASIER TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING, WON'T IT?
.....SO IT'S CONVENIENT, RIGHT?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT
I can't explain it to them.
IN SHORT,
THEY'RE VOICE RECORDERS, EH? A CELLPHONE'S VOICE RECORDER...
I WONDER...
...IF I CAN TALK TO THE PRINCE WITH THIS?
IMAGINING
WHAT A WEIRD PICTURE THAT WOULD MAKE.
WELL YES, IT IS A WEIRD THOUGHT!

Rakan, Ao
BUT THE PRINCE...
...WAS BEING MANIPULATED BY HOSHIMINOKOTO ALL THIS TIME, WASN'T HE?
POSSIBLY KINREI TOO.....
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S TRULY GOING ON,
BUT MAYBE HE'LL UNDERSTAND IF I TALK TO HIM ABOUT HOSHIMINO-KOTO...
I THINK SENDING TSUBAKI TO THE PRINCE...
. WILL JUST GET HIM INSTANTLY DESTROYED.
OH! RIGHT.
EITHER WAY,
EVEN IF YOU GET A BIRD TO FLY TO THE CAPITAL RIGHT NOW,
IT'LL END UP BEING PUT TO SLEEP BY THE "ETERNAL LIFE TREE", WON'T IT?
AND EVEN IF YOU TELL THEM, WE DON'T KNOW IF KINREI AND THE PRINCE TRULY WILL LISTEN...
it'll suck up its energy.
THE PRINCE IS CERTAINLY LIKE A PUPPET...
BUT I THINK KINREI'S PERSONALITY WAS LIKE THAT FROM THE VERY START...
SO IT'S A MATTER OF WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AFTER HOSHIMINOKOTO'S INFLUENCE IS CUT OFF...
...WHEN THE MOON IS DESTROYED, HUH.
YEAH... ...

HMM?
SOMETHING IS COMING THIS WAY FROM THE CAPITAL.
WHAT?
THEN THAT'S JUST AWFUL FOR THEM...
RAKAN!
BUT IF...
...BOTH OF THEM WERE JUST BEING COMPLETELY USED BY HOSHIMINOKOTO,
THAT'S...
"WHAT?"
"RIKKA-SAMA?"
clack
clack
clack


IT BEARS THAT MUCH DELVE
WHAT'S HER POTENCY
KOTOKA-SAMA HAS CAPTURED
BY SHIVRON AND THE OTHERS
YOU
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED I SAID
YOU SHOULD HAVE
BECAUSE HE
ABOUT THE MATTER SHIGETSUGU-SAMA BROUGHT UP
ISHIN-SAMA

THIS IS...
...THE BONE PUPPET THAT THE PRINCE CREATED!
WHY IS KINREI-SAMA IN THIS STATE?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
KINREI-SAMA?!
...THE PRINCE DID THIS TO HIM...?
KINREI-SAMA!
DON'T TELL ME...
KINREI-SAMA!
HE'S ASLEEP... OR RATHER...
...UNCON-SCIOUS?

SOMETHING IS COMING...
AS FAST AS A PERSON RUNS.
IT'S GROWING ON ITS WAY HERE...
...FROM THE CAPITAL.
CHIGUSA? WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT'S COMING?
BAM
..?!
RIP
RIP
RIP
RIP
RIP
THE ETERNAL LIFE TREE..
..IS PIERCING...
THE LAND.....
THUNK

CRACK

RIP

RIP

RIP

RIP

THUNK

POP

...THE SANOME IN THE CAPITAL IS GROWING IT.

IS IT SUCKING UP PEOPLE'S LIVES ON THE WAY HERE?

WHY'S IT SUDDENLY MOVING SO FAST?

IT'S THAT CLOSE?!

RAKAN...

You looking at it with the third eye?

Oh! I was.

YOU MEAN IT'S GROW-ING?

IT'S COMING CLOSER?

...TO SEE IT WITH YOUR EYES TOO IN 2 DAYS

YOU GUYS WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE...

THAT

...ETERNAL LIFE TREE IN THE CAPITAL?!

GROWING THE TREE THAT SUCKS UP PEOPLE'S LIVES?
THAT SANOME...
...WHO LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE MY MOTHER IS THE ONE GROWING IT?
WHAT?
THAT SANOME?
SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE SUPPLYING NOURISHMENT FOR THE PRINCE...
...CHIGUSA.
SHE...
...REALLY DOESN'T HAVE HUMAN-LIKE...
...EMOTIONS.....
SHE..
...TRULY IS UNLIKE MY MOTHER.
THAT'S PRETTY MUCH A GIVEN THOUGH.
YES, SHE IS.
..REALLY A PLANT THAT'S KIND OF LIKE A CRAFTED PUPPET...?
THEN THAT SANOME...
...IS REALLY...

.....HAS NOTHING BUT PUPPETS LEFT NOW
ANYWAY, THE CAPITAL..
WHAT DO YOU..
HUH?
BUT NONE OF THEM HAVE SOULS.
...I CAN'T LOOK AT THEM CLOSELY SINCE THE PRINCE MIGHT NOTICE,
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE MOVING EVEN WHILE THEIR CONSCIOUS-NESSES ARE SHUT OFF.
THEY'RE DIFFERENT FROM THE ONES WHO WERE PUT TO SLEEP
...ARE OF THE "PUPPET" KIND...
...MOST OF THE PEOPLE MOVING IN THE CAPITAL RIGHT NOW.

COME, "SANOME PRINCE".
IT'S GROWING ?
THAT THING IS GETTING BIGGER!
ISN'T IT COMING CLOSER?
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!
THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE..
...AT THE CAPITAL.
IT'S APPEARING AGAIN!
OI, GUYS! COME OUTSIDE!

IT'S ALSO APPEARING...
...AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE FOREST OVER THERE.
HUH?
EVERY-ONE, GO OUTSIDE!
JOLT
!
FLICKER
FLICKER
FLICKER
WO
OSH
HOSHIMINO-KOTO !

THERE HE IS!
!
IT'S HOSHI-MINOKOTO-SAMA!
THEY'RE THE VOICES OF THE PEOPLE FROM OTHER VILLAGES, HUH.
HE TRULY IS SHINING IN THE SAND
OH, I SEE.
HOSHIMINO-KOTO HAS APPEARED!
WAH!
.....
HOSHIMINO-KOTO-SAMA!
IT'S...
...LIKE THE CAPITAL PRINCE'S ILLUSION IN THE PAST.
YEAH...
...HUH?
..go near it
Do not...

WHOOOOOSH
HOSHIMINO-KOTO-SAMA..?!
HUH? HE'S GONE?!
fWOOM
IT'S THE ETERNAL LIFE TREE.
IT'S TRUE! IT'S EXPANDING....
LARGE THORNS?
WHAT ARE THOSE STRANGE...?!
?!
THE VIEW CHANGED ...?

. .from the... capital.
. .that are continuing to expand. .
....stone... thorns
Those... are life-stealing..
WON'T THEY COME HERE AS WELL?!
THOSE ARE THE THINGS WE CAN SEE IN THE DIS-TANCE!
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY "LIFE-STEALING"...?
YOU MEAN IT'S GOING TO REACH EVEN THIS PLACE?!
SOME-THING LIKE THAT IS IN THE CAPITAL...
...THORNS?!
LIFE-STEAL-ING?!
HOSHIMINO-KOTO-SAMA.
WHAT DO WE DO?
God!
PLEASE SAVE US,
ARE WE GOING TO DIE?!
WHAT MUST WE DO...?!
HOSHIMINO-KOTO-SAMA
HOW DO WE ESCAPE IT...?

HAKUBI...
IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS,
THEY START CLINGING TO THAT BEING.
THE MOMENT A BEING THAT COULD RESCUE THEM APPEARS,
AND STOP THINKING...
...FOR THEMSELVES.
.THEY'RE THE SAME...
...AS THE GUYS IN THE CAPITAL.
GOD ..!
THEY BECOME DEPENDENT ON "GOD,"
.....!
The storm...
...is coming.

...will come from the capital.
The last... storm...!
STORM.....?
STORM?
IT HAS FINALLY COME?
THE ONE FROM THE "PROPHECY"?
THE ONE THE CAPITAL PRINCE MENTIONED!
A "STORM"...
"THE WORLD WILL SHATTER INTO TINY PIECES."
"THE GROUND WILL BREAK."

"...WILL BE CALLED FORTH FROM THE WASTELANDS."
"ANCIENT DEMONS..."
"...WILL COIL UP AND BARE THEIR FANGS."
"WIND DRAGONS..."
"THE GROUND WE STAND ON WILL BE ENGULFED BY THE WATER SERPENTS."
"STRANGE MONSTERS WILL COME FROM THE SAND BEING WASHED AWAY."
"IN THE END,"
"THE STORM WILL COME DOWN AND SHAKE UP THE WHOLE EARTH."
"THE SKY WILL BE SPLIT INTO SEVEN LIGHTS..."
"BLACK CLOUDS WILL ACT AS CURTAINS,"
"AND HIDE THE HEAVENS."
.....
THE PRINCE WAS BEING MANIPU-LATED...
...BY HOSHI-MINOKOTO WHEN HE GAVE THAT PROPHECY, WASN'T HE?
...HUH?
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO PREDICTED IT...?
WHICH... MEANS,
SPEAK-ING OF WHICH...
...COME TO THINK OF IT...
ISN'T THAT PROPHECY...

The ones...
...to subdue... it...
..are the Sanome Prince.. and the last... Senroh.
...YES...
I KNEW IT!
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
...BY HIS MAJESTY AND KINREI-SAMA...!
WE'VE BEEN FOOLED...
The ones to summon the.. storm..
...are The Ayame Prince...and the Kingen... child.
IS THAT...
A "CHOSEN" ONE?

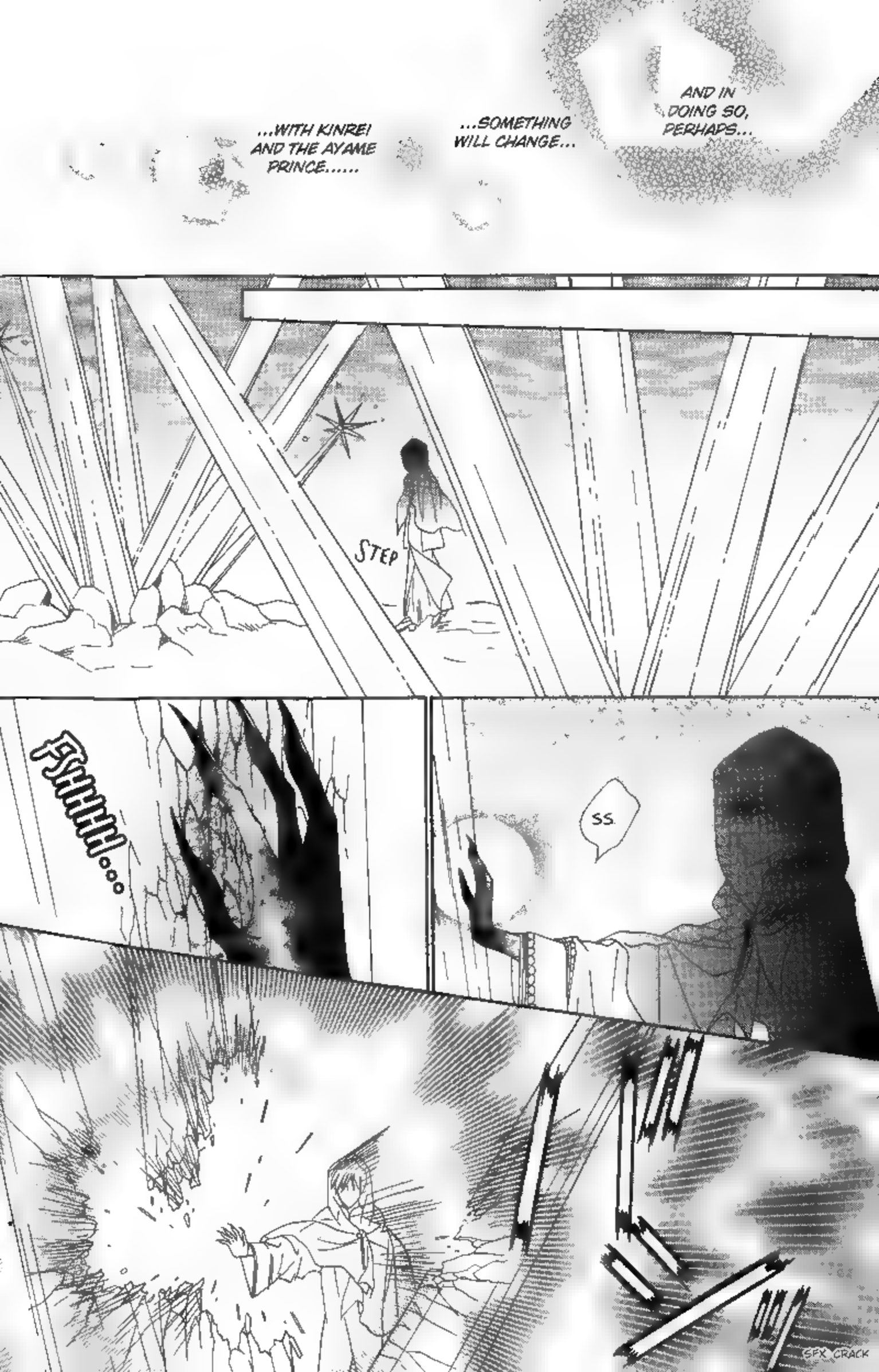
. IT'S AN ORDER.
I CAN FEEL IT
THAT'S CONNECTED TO MY CHEST
FROM HOSHIMINOKOTO'S "STRING"
THE "MANIPULATING" POWER
HE'S TRYING
TO MANIPULATE ME THIS WAY
OR IS THAT
YOUR "ORDER" TO US ?
OR IS THAT
IDEAL "COURSE" ?
This world
will be saved
by the Sanome Prince

THE CHILD OF GOD WILL SAVE US.
WE ARE THANKFUL..
WE'RE GOING TO BE SAVED.
THANK GOOD-NESS...!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
WE HAVE THE SANOME PRINCE ..
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, GOD ..!
HOSHIMINO-KOTO-SAMA!
.FOR GOD'S CHILD
...IS SIMPLE.
THE REASON WHY HE'S BEEN SO DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND...
GOD !
YOU REALLY ARE GOD!
.....AH.
I SEE.
...FOR OUR SAKE.
...ISN'T PAVING THE "COURSE"...
HOSHIMINOKOTO...

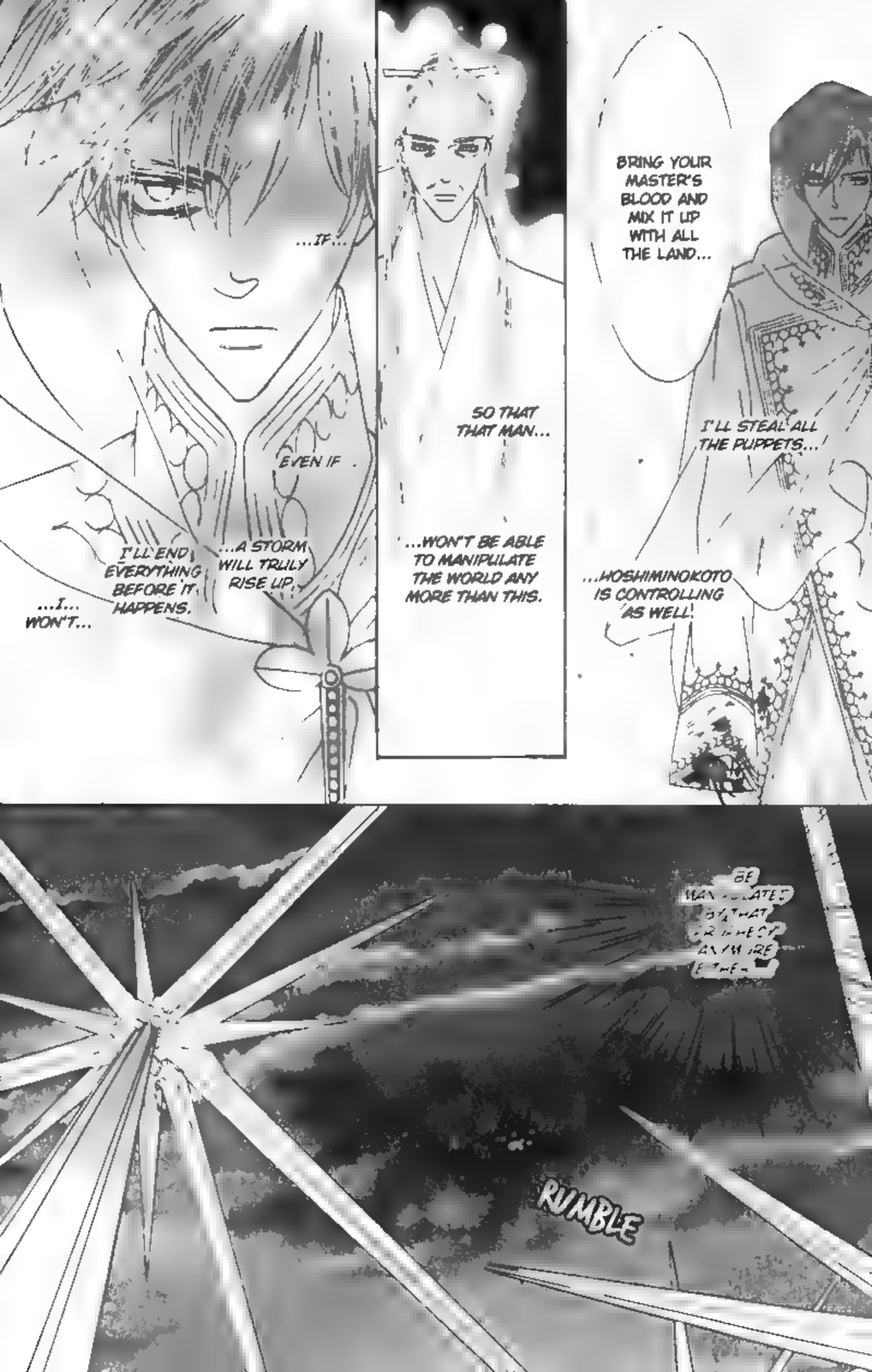
...IS DOING IT SO THAT HE WOULD BE NAMED "GOD".
HE...
WHETHER HE DOES IT...
...CONSCIOUSLY OR NOT,
...YES.
THAT'S RIGHT. THAT'S...
THE MORE GOOD RAKAN, THE "CHILD OF GOD", DOES,
.....
...HOW IT IS.
THAT'S DEFINITELY HOW...
THE MORE THE PEOPLE CALL HOSHIMINOKOTO "GOD".
...HE'S BEEN GUIDING THE PEOPLE ALL THIS TIME.....
.....

SQUEEZE
!
THE SANOME PRINCE WILL SURELY STOP THE STORM FOR US...!
THANK GOOD-NESS
IT'S ALL THANKS TO GOD.
I'M HERE.
I'M GOING TO SAVE THIS WORLD NO MATTER WHAT!
...HOWEVER,
EVEN WITHOUT HOSHIMINOKOTO MANIPULATING ME,
I'D PROTECT THIS WORLD BY MY OWN WILL.
YEAH.
I WILL.
I'LL DO IT.
I'M GOING TO DO IT.
...YEAH.

CHIGUSA,
FIRST AND FOREMOST,
THE AYAME PRINCE, AND KINREI...
WE'RE GOING TO CRUSH HOSHIMINOKOTO'S MOON.
...ARE GOING TO GET CUT OFF FROM YOU...


...WITH KINREI AND THE AYAME PRINCE.....
...SOMETHING WILL CHANGE...
AND IN DOING SO, PERHAPS...
STEP
FSHHHH...
SS
SFX CRACK

FLAP
BUMP
LINK WITH THE WILL OF YOUR BLOOD MASTER.
LOOK FOR PUPPETS SLEEPING UNDER-GROUND.
THUD


...IF...
EVEN IF
...I... WON'T...
I'LL END EVERYTHING BEFORE IT HAPPENS.
...A STORM WILL TRULY RISE UP.
SO THAT THAT MAN...
...WON'T BE ABLE TO MANIPULATE THE WORLD ANY MORE THAN THIS.
BRING YOUR MASTER'S BLOOD AND MIX IT UP WITH ALL THE LAND...
I'LL STEAL ALL THE PUPPETS...
...HOSHIMINOKOTO IS CONTROLLING AS WELL!
RUMBLE

Silver Diamond

[VOL.20] CHAP 58: THE "PROPHECY"

by [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Sujiwa Shiho

Volume 20 Chapter 58

brought to you by

Amato Empire

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Before The Storm

HUH?
.....
ARE YOU NERVOUS?
RUSTLE
RAKAN.
WE ARE SO CLOSE...
...TO THE CAPITAL NOW...
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
WELL, IT'S SOMETHING,
THAT'LL BE A BURDEN TO YOU...
Here sit
WELL...
SO, YOU WANTED TO TALK?
...WELL, MORE OR LESS, I GUESS.
BUT I'M ALL RIGHT.

Um
.....
OH, WHAT IS IT, WHAT IS IT? TELL ME, TELL ME!
Oh, okay.
HURRY UP!
I MEAN, IT'S MORE ...
...SELFISHNESS ON MY PART...
SELFISHNESS ON CHIGUSA'S PART?!
Oh my
THIS IS SUPER RARE!!
...DO YOU MIND...
...IF I...
...CONNECT A WIRE BETWEEN YOUR EYES AND MINE?
...WE'RE GOING TO PROCEED WITHOUT REST FROM HERE ON OUT.
YES.
LIKE WITH TOHJI AND KAZUHI?
WHEN WE'RE SHORT ON TIME,
I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST...
...IF YOU COULD IMMEDIATELY CHECK OUT THE THINGS I SEE.
AFTER ALL, LOOKING THROUGH THE FOREHEAD WASTES TIME...

HOWEVER,
ONCE THEY'RE CONNECTED, THEY CAN'T BE UNDONE
EVER.
THE PICTURE IN YOUR HEAD CHANGES,
SO IT WILL BE A BIT OF A BURDEN TO YOUR EYES
BUT STILL,
I WANT TO DO IT
I
WAS NERVOUS

WELL, AS IT IS...
...THAT I'M, NATURALLY, A LITTLE SCARED
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY
VERY CLOSE TO THE CAPITAL NOW
WE'RE,
..I KNOW I NEED TO BRACE MYSELF
THAT'S WHY IF...
IF POSSIBLE, I WANT...
YOU'LL BE...
...CONNECTED TO ME FOR LIFE, THOUGH.
ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?

I WANT
TO ALWAYS HAVE
AN INSEVERABLE LINK
WITH CHIGUSA...
..OF COURSE I'M OKAY WITH IT!
AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH
...WELL, I THOUGHT I'D ASK FIRST.

SO I FIGURED IT WOULD BE OKAY TO BE A LITTLE SELFISH.
YOU TOLD ME...
...THAT YOU'RE ALL MINE,
BUT CHIGUSA,
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN BE A LITTLE SELFISH NOW, HUH.
Progress, progress.

TN: Rakan is actually quoting Takeda Rouda a.k.a Gian, a bully from the manga/anime Doraemon. This is hilarious because Rakan forgets not only who said that quote, but also the line that comes after it, which is, "What's mine...is mine" XD

...YEAH.
I'LL BE A LITTLE SELFISH TOO.
Who was it that said that again?*
"What's yours is mine!"
You can even go so far as to say,
THAT'S RIGHT.
YEAH.

FWUsh

BUMP ...!
BUMP BUMP
BUMP
TRICKLE
TRICKLE
TRICKLE
TRICKLE
SHWIP
A MONSTER!!
RUN!! IT'S HEADED THIS WAY
HOW ABOUT FIRE?
HOW DO WE DEAL WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
A ROCK ?
THAT thing's like 60ft

THWACK
THWACK
THWACK
THWACK
THWACK
swoosh
!?
SLIIDE...
AS EXPECTED, THEY DON'T WORK AGAINST IT.
WHAT IS THAT THING, SOIL?
LOOKS LIKE THE AYAME PRINCE'S BLOOD WAS MIXED INTO IT.
ROCKS AND SOIL WERE MESHED TO THE STONE PUPPET HOSHIMINOKOTO MADE IN THE PAST
IT DOESN'T EVEN LOOK LIKE A LIVING BEING...
IT'S GOING OUT OF CONTROL...
IT'S STARTING TO MOVE AGAIN!

IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'VE SEEN IT
I'M GOING TO DEACTIVATE IT
BANG
BANG BANG BANG
FELL APART
THE MONSTER
CLATTER

PLOP
LET'S GO.
YEAH.
WHOOSH
THE SANOME PRINCE...?
PLANTS?!
HIS MAJESTY SAVED US.
HE'S THE CHILD OF GOD
GOD'S CHILD...

HOSHIMINOKOTO'S CHILD...!
OVER THERE TOO!
You see it?
Oh! I see it
SOMETHING IS COMING OUT FROM THE GROUND ?
SLIDE
BUMP

IS THE PRINCE USING IT TO INTERVENE?
THAT THING IS SIMILAR TO THE BLACK MEADOW.
IT HAS THE PRINCE'S BLOOD IN IT AGAIN...!
IT'S POISON-OUS.
!
HMM? A PLANT...?
IT'S MOVING!
DOES A CREATURE LIKE THAT EVEN EXIST?!
POISON-OUS?!
IT'S THE TYPE THAT SPREADS POISON THROUGH ITS FLOWERS.
LIKE RIKKA-SAN'S?
WHOA... THAT'S HORRIBLE!
IT'S SET UP TO BE "FOR POISON-SPREADING."
ONE THAT'S LIKE A MOVING PLANT...
RAKAN, TOHJI AND I CAN HANDLE IT,
WE'RE HEADING ON OVER THERE!
TOHJI! RESTRAIN IT!
SO DON'T MOVE, GUYS!
OK!
swish!
OK

THWACK
THWACK
CREAK
CREAK
WHOOOSH
SWISH

HEY.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THE POISON...
I WANT TO REMOVE JUST THE POISON.
CREAK
ALL RIGHT! IT'S SET... RAKAN, I'M COUNTING ON YOU!
OKAY!
LET'S SEE...
WILL THIS WORK?
SWOOSH
SMACK
GRAB

IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
...IT'S OKAY
CALM DOWN.
ROOTED TO THIS LAND...!
YOU'LL TURN INTO A POISONLESS SHRUB,
I'M GOING TO CONVERT THE POISON...!
lights up
Poof

SOUNDS LIKE SOME LAND COLLAPSED AGAIN...
BAAM
!
AH
ITS COLOR CHANGED...!
THINGS OVER THERE ARE FINE NOW,
IT seems
WAS IT NEAR A VILLAGE?
IT'S FINE...IT HAPPENED AT A PLACE WITHOUT ANY PEOPLE NEARBY.
THE PLACES RAKAN GREW MORE PLANTS ON...
...WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE PLANTS' ROOTS, SO THOSE ARE GOING TO BE OKAY...
THE WHOLE WORLD'S GROUND?
...IS THE GROUND GROWING WEAK?
WILL THE OTHER PLACES BE ALL RIGHT.. ?
...KEEP POPPING OUT EVERY-WHERE
...BUT...
...THOSE PUPPET-LIKE CREATURES THE PRINCE CREATED...

WOOSH
?!
HUH? THE BIRD IS...
A MONSTER!
EVERYONE, GRAB A WEAPON!
WELL, THAT BIRD...
WHAT IS IT?
PLOP
TWISH
TWISH
TWISH
TWISH

THE MONSTER ...
IT CAN'T MOVE!
...WAS ENGULFED BY SHRUBS!
WHOOSH
THAT'S GREAT!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE OKAY...
AS EXPECTED OF THE CHILD OF GOD!
THE SANOME ,S DEFINITELY ..
IT SAVED US!
THAT BIRD...
.. IS THE SANOME PRINCE'S MESSENGER!
YAAA
.. THE "MESSENGER" OF HOSHIM,NO-KOTO-SAMA!
"MESSENGER" OF GOD ..
. THE

EVERYONE TRULY DOES...
.....
...BELIEVE IN THAT MAN...
WHOOSH
...I...
...CAN'T SAY ANYTHING RIGHT NOW, THOUGH.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
...LET'S GO! ONWARDS!
IS YOUR PLACE ALL RIGHT, KARAKU-SAN?
YES
NOTHING STRANGE HAS APPEARED IN OUR VICINITY.

IT SEEMS THAT VARIOUS THINGS HAVE BEEN APPEARING...
...IN PLACES NEAR THE CAPITAL.
WE'VE ARRANGED FOR THE BIRDS
TO KEEP A LOOKOUT ALL AROUND FOR US
ONCE SOMETHING BAD APPEARS,
WE'LL HAVE THE CLOSEST BIRD DELIVER HIS MAJESTY'S SEED AT ONCE.
THANKS!
I'm counting on you
...WE...
...ALSO ASKED SHIRANAMI-SAMA TO HELP US WITH THE REST..
He said he delivered your message!
...RAKAN.
YOU SEE IT?

.YEAH
!
SHWIP
..
THAT'S IT, HUH.
SHWIP
EVERYBODY, STOP!
AH! I SEE IT...!
!
SHWIP
WE'RE HERE..
SSH...

SNAP
CRACK
TUNK
SNAP
EVERYBODY, GO INTO THAT FOREST FOR NOW.
OH!
WHERE THERE'S NO "SHINING SAND," HUH.
'K
IT KEEPS SNAPPING AND CRACKING AS IT GROWS...
IT'S SLOWLY MOVING FORWARD.
...THE ETERNAL LIFE TREE. .!
THAT'S...
WHOA...

YEAH
WE... HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THESE THORNS FIRST.
RIGHT AT THE CENTER OF THAT IS THE CAPITAL.
CLINK
DID YOU FIGURE OUT THE CIRCUITS?
I CAN SEE THE MECHANISM.
BUT THE PRIMARY CIRCUIT OR THE SWITCH OF THE WHOLE TREE
IS AT THE CENTER OF IT
IT'S "BASE" IN THE CAPITAL

WON'T THE PEOPLE WHO COLLAPSED GO BACK TO NORMAL BY DOING SO...?
CAN'T WE BREAK...
...THESE STONE-LIKE THORNS ONE BY ONE?
HEY, ABOUT THAT .
THEN, YOU REALLY NEED...
...TO GO IN THERE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT...
NO...THAT THING...
...SUCKS UP A HUMAN'S NUTRIENTS AND ENERGY,
AND STORES THEM UP INSIDE ITS THORN BRANCHES.
BREAKING THEM WOULD CRUSH ALL OF THAT ENERGY.
IT WOULD WEAKEN THE PEOPLE COLLAPSED IN THERE RIGHT NOW AND KILL THEM.
THE ENERGY HAS TO BE RETURNED TO THE PEOPLE IT WAS TAKEN FROM FIRST?
YES.
THAT'S WHY.
...I'M GOING TO THE "CIRCUIT" AT THE BASE OF THIS TREE,
AND CHANGE ITS "SETTINGS"...!

I'M GOING TO TAMPER WITH THAT CIRCUIT.
TO STOP THAT FLOW,
AND GET IT TO "RETURN WHAT IT ABSORBED FIRST,"
THERE'S A CIRCUIT THAT CONTROLS
. . .THE FLOW OF THE ABSORBED NUTRIENTS.
CHANGE ITS SETTINGS?
BY DOING THAT,
THE PEOPLE SHOULD GET THEIR ENERGY BACK...?
YES.
THEN, FIRST WE HEAD TO ITS "FOUNDATION" IN THE CAPITAL!
AFTER WE RETURN THE ENERGY TO THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE COLLAPSED, WE HEAD TO THE "MOON"!

WHAT?! WHAT ABOUT ME?!
THE SHINJUS WILL BE FINE.
THEY'RE "STONES," AFTER ALL.
...BUT HOW DO WE GET IN?
AH! OH YEAH. IN THE PAST...
HUH.. KURO WILL BE FINE AS WELL.
I WANNA COME TOOOOOO!!
ROAAR
NOBODY WILL BE ABLE TO GET CLOSE TO IT THEN...
WELL, FIRST OF ALL .
PEOPLE COLLAPSE AFTER THEIR ENERGY IS ABSORBED, DON'T THEY?
HEH! HEH!
YAAY!
Ehhhhh?
Lucky you.
HEH! HEH!
...AND RAKAN AND I ARE SANOME AND AYAME, SO WE'LL BE FINE AS WELL.
TOHJI WILL ALSO BE FINE.
YOU DRANK THE PRINCE'S BLOOD, DIDN'T YOU? IN THE PAST.
Ehhhh?
WHAT?
OHHH, IS THAT WHY?
ME TOO? WHY?
Lucky, you.

I SEE.
AND THAT'S HOW IT DIFFERENTIATES WHO TO ABSORB OR NOT ABSORB ENERGY FROM.
MAYBE... KINREI'S COMRADES IN THERE
.. DRANK SOME OF THE PRINCE'S BLOOD,
THE POWERS OF PLANTS DON'T WORK AGAINST SANOMES...
AND THAT THORN TREE...
...IS SET TO "AVOID AYAME BLOOD."
OH? THEN... WE'LL BE OKAY IF WE DRINK THE AYAME PRINCE'S BLOOD?
HAKUBI STILL HAS SOME OF THE PRINCE'S BLOOD LEFT!
Come to think of it, you were fine w th the poisonous flowers too.
That was oddly useful.
THIS MEANS WE CAN'T GO IN THERE, DOESN'T IT?!
SO, WHAT DO WE DO?
Whaaat?
...SORRY.
No, it's not your fault
WHAT? NO...
SORRY, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY LEFT.
I RAN OUT FROM MAKING THE SHINJUS...

Him.
OH, I SEE!
YOUR BLOOD...!
...Somehow, I don't want to drink directly from him.
He'd probably...
...make us drink it in an absurd fashion. I don't want to do it.
YES.
YOU SHOULD BE FINE WITH MY BLOOD.
EXCEPT...
...MINE ISN'T THE SAME AS THE PRINCE'S.
IT WON'T BE THE SAME AS PURE AYAME BLOOD.
I DON'T THINK ..
...IT WOULD LAST FOREVER.

...YOU MEAN, ITS EFFECTS MIGHT RUN OUT ON OUR WAY THERE?
YES.
EVEN IF WE GO STRAIGHT TO THE CENTER OF THE CAPITAL,
AND TAMPER WITH THE "CIRCUITS"...
THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL BE ABLE TO GO THERE WITHOUT DIFFICULTIES,
SO I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT THE EFFECTS WOULD LAST UNTIL WE GET THERE.
...SO...
!
IF IT DOESN'T LAST,
THEN THEY WOULD FAINT RIGHT THEN AND THERE...

YEAH.
WE GET IT ALREADY, SO HURRY UP AND GIVE US...
...THE BLOOD

...HMM...

...GOOD FRIENDS...

AHH, THEY ARE SUCH...

THERE ARE TOO MANY OF US! HOW DOES THAT EVEN COMPUTE, YOU IDIOT?!
I'M NOT PREPARED FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT YOU PERVERT?!
WAH, YOU IDIOT!!
THEN, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE FASTER DOING IT MOUTH TO MOUTH.
You're making everyone lose their drive!
Your idea s too perverted!
HEAVY COMPLAINTS.
Think about the image that would make! It's beyond acceptable!!

Somehow, they don't seem pleased to drink it...
You need to pass it around to us too
Ugh I was imagining the worst
Ahh, geez Seriously
Put some of it here.
Here
PASSING AROUND DRINKS.
SLASH
Thanks for the blood
Oh, okay.
AO, YOU DRINK TOO.
I SUPPOSE AROUND THIS MUCH...
THIS WAY, THE TREE WON'T BE ABLE TO PUT YOU TO SLEEP.
CHIGUSA.
YOUR WOUND...
YEAH. IT'S BANDAGED, SEE?
I'LL STICK CLOSE...
THANKS.
...TO HELP YOU RECOVER THE STRENGTH (?) YOU LOST FROM THE BLOOD LOSS
twish
thump

...YEAH.
LET'S GO WITHOUT STOPPING.
I...
I WANT TO GO [WITH] THEM...!
WHAT IF THEY THINK I'M A BURDEN...?
BUT IS IT OKAY TO?
.....
Woo
Woo
SAE.
YOU'RE GOING TO DRINK SOME TOO, RIGHT?
COME ON OVER.
.....
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
DON'T WORRY!
WE'LL PROTECT YOU.

"...AH! THAT'S RIGHT!"
"LET'S MAKE STONE PUPPETS RIGHT THIS INSTANT,"
"AND HEAD TO THE CAPITAL AT ONCE!"
NII-SAMA, PLEASE BE SAFE.
...I...
"SEE, I JUST WANTED TO ASK..."
"SAE-CHAN."
"YES?"
"WE HAVE TO RESCUE NARUSHIGE-SAN TOO!"
...NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING...
"HUH?"
...NII-SAMA...
"REALLY?"
I...
...BUT ...
...IS THINK-ING.
...DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTHER...
... EVEN I...

.....
... EVEN SO, SHE'S ...
... STILL ...
THEY'RE THE SAME AS STONE THORNS AS IN THE ILLUSION.
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT KINREI-SAMA WOULD ACTUALLY DO THAT
!
SENROH AND THE SANOME BOY ARE ALSO MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION, THOUGH
IT'S COMING CLOSER!
I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT...
PLOP.
WHO'S THERE?!
THE ONE OVER THERE-
FWIP

...HUMAN LANGUAGE...?!!
A BIRD THAT CAN SPEAK...
TOKURA WATO! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
PLEASE ANSWER, SIIIR!
...ANNOYING!!
AND IT'S ALSO QUITE...
MR. OLD MAN SIR!
OLD MAN!!
OLD MAN!
GROUP FULL OF 40 YEAR OLD MEN.
HAVE YOU BEEN MAKING THE BIRD SHADOW US THIS WHOLE TIME?!
YOU GUYS ARE THE ONES THAT HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING US THIS WHOLE TIME!
PROMPTED.
OH! SIR!
NOT YOU TOO!!
THIS IS ..
THE BIRD THAT DELIVERED THE KEYS TO THE HAND-CUFFS!
IT'S SENROH CHIGUSA AND THE SANOME PRINCE'S VOICE!

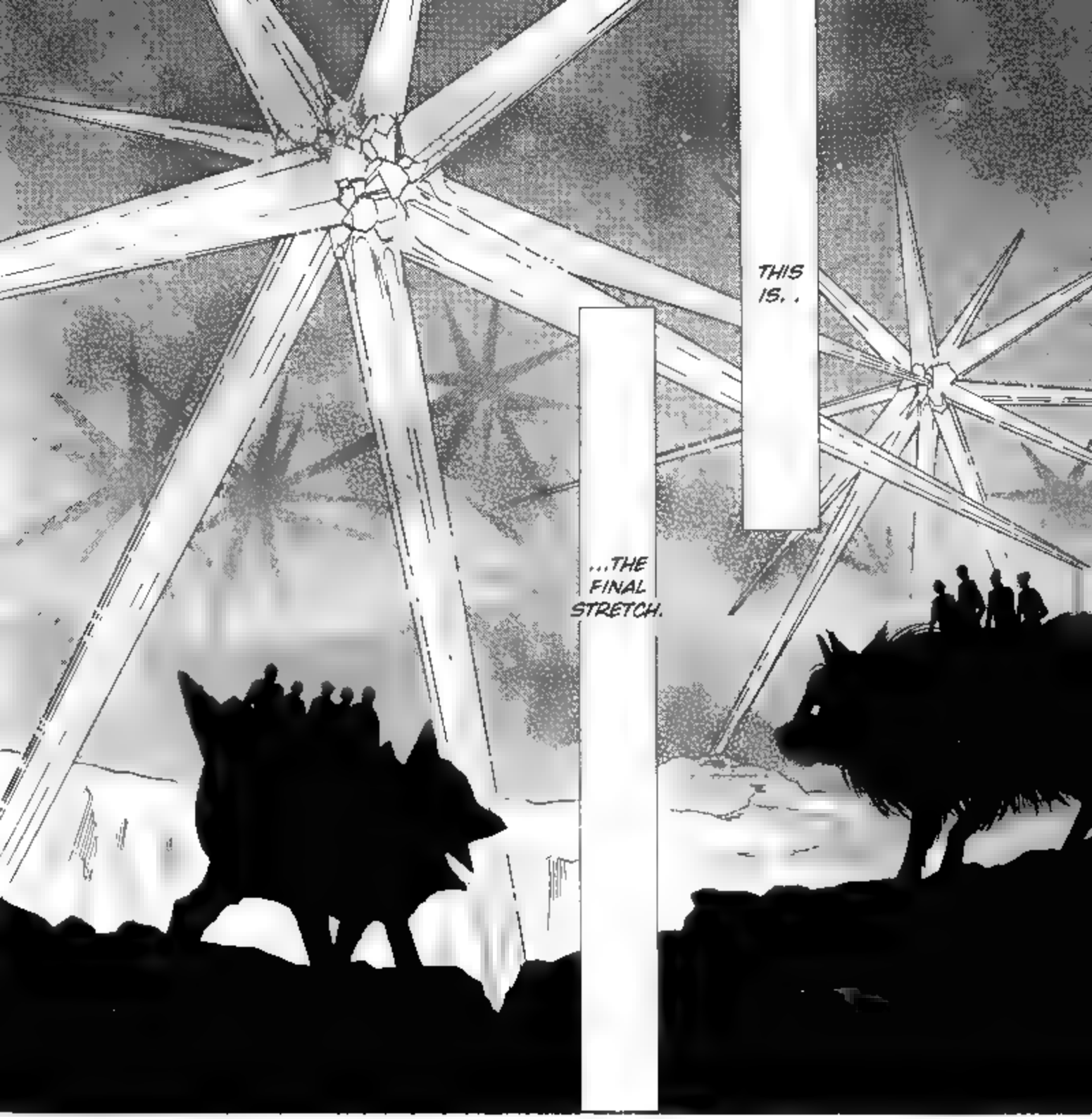
WE DON'T TRUST YOU PEOPLE YET!
SANOME PRINCE!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
UH,
THAT'S RIGHT, THIS IS RAKAN.
WE...I HAVE A...
THAT INCLUDES THAT FISHY CHARACTER HOSHIMINOKOTO AS WELL!
AND OF COURSE,
...
...THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...

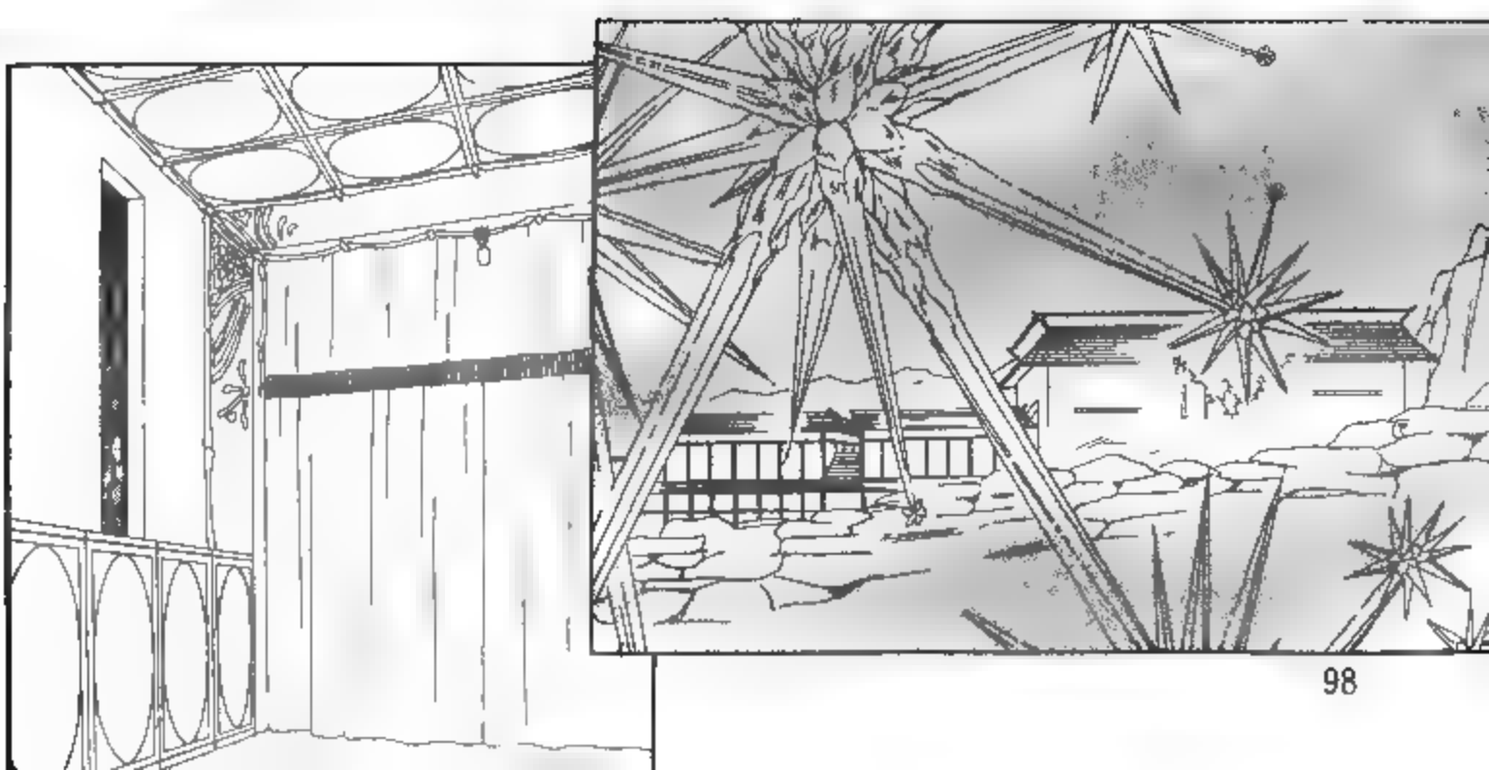
Very sharp~
Wooow~ You're so sharp~
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap
WATO-SAN, YOU'RE SO COOL~!
NO, THAT'S WONDERFUL!
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!
YOU'RE SO STUBBORN~
WOOOW~
...SOMEONE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
clap clap
clap clap
WHAT DO YOU WANT, SANOME?!
ARE THEY CLAPPING FOR US?
These sounds.
Cool?!
WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS...?
.....
YOU'RE NOT TELLING US THAT YOU'RE SHORT ON MANPOWER, ARE YOU?
OH, SORRY ABOUT THAT
YOU SEE .. BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE WE CAN RELY ON..
WE HAVE A REQUEST-
.....
SO YOU ARE!

I'M SORRY! I REALLY AM.
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK WE ARE ?!
YOUR ENEMIES!
WE'RE KINGEN'S GUARDS!
SORRY.
WE HONESTLY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MANPOWER...
"ATTACK"...
.....
...ARE GOING TO ATTACK KINREI-SAMA AND THE PRINCE, AREN'T YOU?
YOU PEOPLE..
.THEY CERTAINLY ARE OUR ENEMIES,
BUT PLEASE DON'T CHASE AFTER US ANYMORE!
PLEASE SAVE...
..*EVERYONE ELSE.*
WHAT A SELFISH REQUEST!

...THAT'S IT.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
OI, SANOME!
DON'T GO NEAR IT!
THAT THORN TREE REALLY DOES ABSORB PEOPLE'S LIVES.
SENROH!
PLEASE TURN BACK FROM THERE.
I'M SORRY IT TRULY IS A SELFISH REQUEST.
BUT...
...WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MANPOWER..!
WE NEED TO HURRY.
.....
.....
.....!

ALL RIGHT, SHALL WE GO?
.....
THEY ARE GOOD PEOPLE, AFTER ALL...
YEAH.
IT'LL BE FINE.
...I WONDER IF THEY'LL DO IT ..
OK.


THIS IS. .
...THE FINAL STRETCH.



KINREI.
.....
I'LL FIND A WAY TO CUT YOUR "STRING".
WAIT FOR IT.
I'LL DEFINITELY...
IT'S CONNECTED TO "KINGEN BLOOD".
IT'S DIFFERENT FROM SENGIN'S STRING.
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO AND KINREI'S STRING IS A "BLOOD RELATION-SHIP"..
...THE "STRING" IS INVISIBLE EVEN TO MY AYAME EYES.
I'LL DEFINITELY SET YOU FREE!

I'LL CREATE A BLOOD-SUCKING "CELESTINE,"
AND SNAP IT AT THE MIDDLE OF ITS TRUNK.
...FLOW OUT FROM ITS OPENING...
BY DOING THAT,
THE ABSORBED BLOOD WILL PROBABLY...
IF THAT'S THE CASE IF I EXTRACT THE KINGEN BLOOD LITTLE BY LITTLE,
SHARE SOME OF THIS AYAME BLOOD OF MINE!!
AND INCREASE THE RATIO OF THE "AYAME" IN HIS BLOOD,
THEN IT SHOULD WEAKEN THE CONNECTION OF THE "STRING" AND THEIR BLOOD RELATIONSHIP--
stab
stab
ooze

TN A celestine is a type of crystal/mineral

I'LL MAKE YOU UP AT THE END SO
WHEN THE TIME COMES
PLEASE FIGHT TOGETHER

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Sujiwa Shiho

Volume 20 Chapter 57

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About the omake manga's screentone commentary
The numerals are the screentone numbers, and the letters before it are the screentone type codes.
(S- is for IC, SE- is for Deleter, TH- is for Design Tone, Y- is for Youth, L- is for Letra, C- is for Comic, CB- is for Maxon, BS is for Bright Seal, and AB is for Original)

Or, perhaps I should start by saying that screentones are patterned adhesive sheets stuck onto people, clothes, shades and backgrounds in the manuscript. (For those of you who do not know...)

And there are also screentones that are now out of print.
I chose mostly old screentones this time, so a lot of them might be...

Incidentally, I only left an empty space for my commentary beforehand, and completed the manga part first, but the space I allotted for the commentary was too small.
It's too narrow!! So narrow... I wish I allotted a wider space..

There are a lot of other screentones that I really love but some of them I don't have on hand since they're now out of print, and some are temporarily hidden away in my screentone drawer ( ), so the omake didn't go quite as planned... Oh well, if I get another chance I'll elaborate in a talk segment. Like on my top 5 halftones. That, and on my interest in screentones. I have a good sense for it, to the point that in the past, my assistant and friends constantly consulted me and asked, "Is it really okay to use this patterned screentone...?"
Anyhow, pay no mind to the commentary.

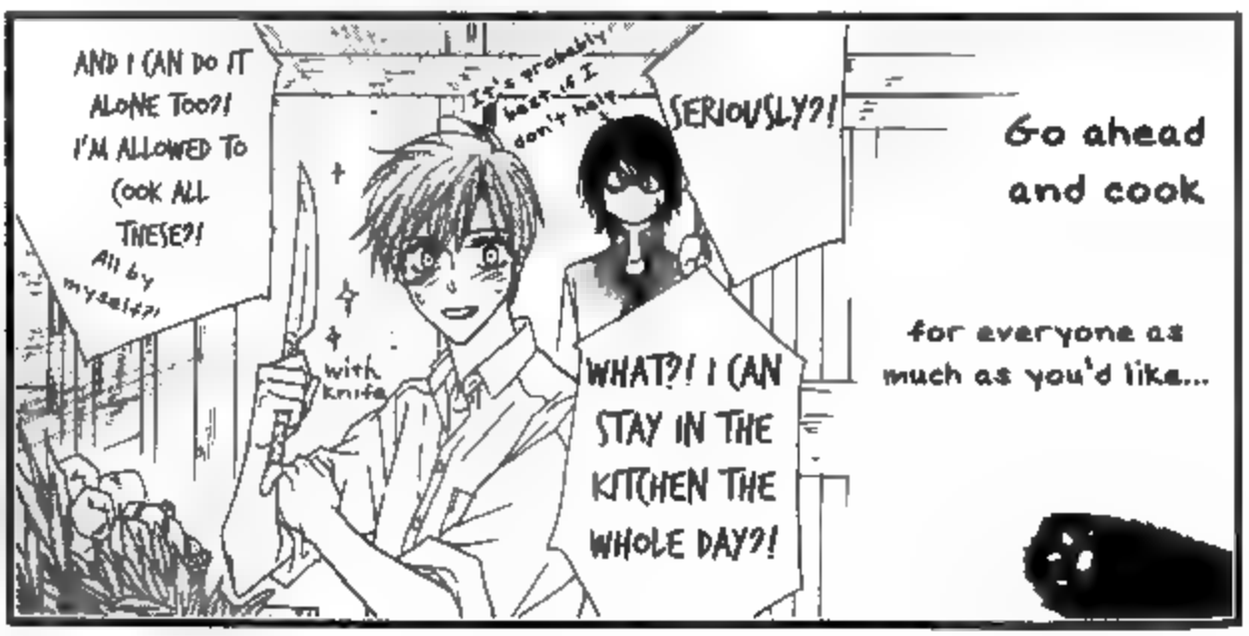
All right, that's it. I'm sorry for the block of text.
It's a little late to say this now, but thank you very much to all those who always send me New Year's cards, key chains, emails and letters. Thanks also to those who sent me letters from abroad. They're very motivating. I'll do my best!
See you next volume!

Gugumoyashi-kun 2010 チョコレート。

Front and Back

Ichirae! Talk.

How do I reward my characters?


AND I CAN DO IT ALONE TOO?! I'M ALLOWED TO COOK ALL THESE?! All by myself?!
It's probably best if I don't help...
SERIOUSLY?!
Go ahead and cook
for everyone as much as you'd like...
with knife
WHAT?! I CAN STAY IN THE KITCHEN THE WHOLE DAY?!

YEAH
SEE?
AREN'T THEY LEFT OUT IN THE OPEN?
THEY'LL BE FINE
AH!
Hm?
HEY
THE PEOPLE WHO COLLAPSED OUTSIDE...
WILL THEY REALLY BE ALL RIGHT?
IS BOXED IN BY THE THORN TREE...?
THAT PERSON
OH! I SEE IT TOO!
AH! THEY'RE REALLY BOXED IN BY THE TREE.
THOSE THORN BRANCHES...
IS THAT BECAUSE . THEY'RE ITS SOURCE OF PRECIOUS NUTRIENTS?
.. PROTECT THE PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE FORCES.
THAT'S RIGHT.

"The storm..."
"is coming"
.....
...SPEAKING OF WHICH,
WILL THEY ALSO BE OKAY WHEN THE STORM ARRIVES?
I SEE...
I SUPPOSE SO....
WELL, THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR....
THOUGH IT'S RATHER IRONIC.
THAT MEANS...
NO, IT PROBABLY WILL, WHICH IS WHY HOSHIMINOKOTO TOLD US ABOUT IT...
WILL THE STORM REALLY COME?
SINCE THE PRINCE WAS BEING MANIPULATED BY THE SHINING SAND THIS WHOLE TIME,
THAT MEANS....
IT'S NOT A REAL PROPHECY, RIGHT?
THAT THE PRINCE'S PROPHECY WAS MADE BY HOSHIMINOKOTO, RIGHT?
"HEY, CHIGUSA..."
...KINREI AND THE PRINCE TRULY DID "SUMMON THE STORM"....

THAT PROPHECY IS PROBABLY ...
...AN ACCURATE "ESTIMATE",
AND A "WARNING" TO THE PEOPLE.
RIGHT
HE DOESN'T HAVE THE "POWER" TO SEE THE FUTURE.
IF HE DID, THEN THE WORLD WOULDN'T HAVE TURNED OUT THIS WAY
THAT'S TRUE.
AN "ESTIMATE"?
HOSHIMINO-KOTO...
...KEEPS TABS ON THE STATUS OF THE WORLD THROUGH THE "SHINING SAND".
I THINK HE CAN ALSO ESTIMATE TO A CERTAIN EXTENT...
...THE DETERIORATION OF THE GROUND... OR RATHER, THE "PLATFORM" HE MADE.
HE WAS PROBABLY PLANNING...
...ON USING KINREI AND THE PRINCE...
...TO DO THIS WORLD IN LINE WITH THE "PROPHECY" AT FIRST.
Even if his estimate was off, he probably would have made Kinrei and the Prince make it happen.
THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PROPHECY...
..SERVES AS PROOF OF HIS "GODLY" POWERS, AFTER ALL.
Ooooh, so the remaining people...
...ould call him "God", eh

BECAUSE RAKAN STOPPING IT IS THE BETTER COURSE... MOST LIKELY.
.....HOWEVER, IT'S POSSIBLE...
THEN,
HE COULD JUST MAKE KINREI AND THE PRINCE DO IT, SINCE HE'S MANIPULATING THEM ANYWAY...
WHY IS HE TELLING RAKAN TO "STOP THE STORM" NOW?
IT'S POSSIBLE ...
....THAT HOSHIMINOKOTO CAN'T STOP IT HIMSELF... I GUESS?
YEAH
WE ...DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW YET HOW MANY OF KINREI AND THE PRINCE'S ACTIONS ....ARE MANIPULATIONS.
?
HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO SEE THAT?
Come to think of it
IT'S A FARAWAY SCENE, ISN'T IT?
AND HOW MANY OF THEM ARE DONE OF THEIR OWN WILL.....
HUH?! RAKAN!
OH!
I HAD CHIGUSA CONNECT OUR EYES.
JUST LIKE YOU TWO, TOHJI.

AND I DON'T WANT TO WASTE TME.
Seriously?
THERE'LL PROBABLY BE TIMES WHEN MY SAFETY WOULD DEPEND ON HOW SOON I SEE THINGS COMING.
You did it on purpose?
YEP
WHAT?! THEY'RE CONNECTED?! YOUR EYES ARE?!
The Prince's Words
I SHOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO USE WHATEVER I CAN.
That's what I think.
PLUS, DOING IT THROUGH THE FOREHEAD IS A PAIN.
THIS MIGHT GET MESSY,
ONCE NARUSHIGE-SAN FINDS OUT.
Mm
He'll probably be at wit's end
AHHHH ...
WHAT?! BUT YOU CAN'T EVER DISCONNECT THEM AGAIN, RIGHT?
Yep
You're okay with that?
I DON'T REALLY MIND.
.....
IT'S WITH CHIGUSA, AFTER ALL.
OH? IS THAT SO?
WHY... ?

LOVE
R
C
N
...THAT THIS IS HOW IT IS?!
Perhaps I wasn't supposed to know about it
WHAT?! DON'T TELL ME ...
Come to think of it! Nii-sama is apparently better with guys.
STOP HER! NARUSHIGE -SAN WILL GET MAD AT US.
OI, I THINK SHE'S GETTING THE WRONG IDEA.
That's uncalled for! He'll definitely get mad at you guys!
Stop saying whatever comes to mind about my Narushige!
HE'S LIKE THEIR MOTHER-IN -LAW
MOTHER-IN-LAW
BUT HOW DO WE EXPLAIN IT TO HER?
MOTHER-IN-LAW
AH! OH YEAH! HAKUBI...
HE ACTS LIKE THEIR FATHER.
Ah! All right...
He's definitely a mother-in-law, though.
WE DON'T KNOW WHEN SOMETHING WILL TURN UP, AFTER ALL!
OI! DON'T LOWER YOUR GUARDS!
You guys!

AFTER ALL. .
...AREN'T YOU A TRAITOR?
IF PUSH COMES TO SHOVE,
WHAT?
You called?
YOU SHOULD STAND BACK.
You hear me?
HUH?
WHAT? WHY?
"WHY", YOU ASK .
SOMEONE MIGHT HEAD STRAIGHT FOR YOU.
IF YOU STAND IN FRONT,
THEY MIGHT PRIORITIZE KILLING YOU FIRST.
YOU CAN'T FIGHT AGAINST KINREI AND THE OTHERS, RIGHT?
!
.THAT'S RIGHT
I'VE COMPLETELY BETRAYED THEM
BUT
TRUE ENOUGH...
FIGHTING KINREI-SAMA AND THE OTHERS IS JUST...
...IS JUST.....

IT'S TRUE
..THAT I MOST LIKELY WON'T DO A THING,
BUT....
!
WHAT...
DO I DO WHEN KINRE-SAMA APPEARS...
...RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES?
!
JUST STAND BACK.
THAT'S WHY THERE'S NO NEED TO PUSH YOURSELF.
YEAH, EXACTLY
WE'LL PROTECT YOU.
HUH?
SOMETHING'S COMING OUT!
STOP!

Whoa!
!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!
SCHWIP
AND THEY'RE GROWING, TOO?!
THEY REALLY ARE THORNS.
FLAP
WATO-SAMA! THE BIRD
IT SEEMS TO BE TELLING US TO GO TO THAT TREE.
THERE'S A WHITE... PAPER?
Um.

"To Wato-san and co."
"We're leaving behind this letter."
"in case you come to this place."
IT SEEMS TO BE A LETTER...
WHAT THE? THERE'S A BAMBOO TUBE WITH IT...?
Where?
"As we mentioned earlier,"
"this stone thorn tree"
tryly does absorb people's lives."
"Please do not get any closer to it, and turn back."

"HOSHIMINO-KOTO" SAID THE SAME THING ABOUT THAT TREE.
BUT IS IT TRUE?
IT COULD BE A "LIE" TO MAKE US STOP CHASING THEM....
I'LL GO AND CHECK IT OUT.
WATO-SAN,
PLEASE SAVE EVERYONE ELSE.

THAT'S WHY WE ARE GOING TO STOP THESE THORNS FROM ABSORBING LIVES
BREAKING IT WOULD ONLY KILL THE PEOPLE
THAT THORN TREE IS EXPANDING ON ITS WAY HERE FROM THE CAPITAL
THAT BIRD...
...TRANSMITS PEOPLE'S VOICES AMONG ITS FELLOW BIRDS.
CALL OUT FOR THE MAN NAMED "SOUTA FROM THE UTAEDA FAMILY". THE BIRD WILL CONNECT YOU WITH HIM.
BUT WE DON'T THINK THAT COVERS EVERYTHING.
WE TOLD THE PEOPLE TO STAY AWAY FROM THE THORN TREE AND EVACUATE.
THROUGH THE HELP OF THE OTHER BIRDS,
TO HELP THOSE PEOPLE!
SOME PEOPLE MIGHT HAVE TROUBLE ESCAPING
SO WE WANT YOU AND YOUR GROUP
GETTING AHOLD OF WORLDWIDE INFORMATION
HE'S BEEN LISTENING TO THE BIRDS MONITORING VARIOUS AREAS.

WATO-SAMA!
ASK "UTAEDA SOUTA"....
WE'RE BEGGING YOU!
...ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE HAVING TROUBLE ESCAPING AND HELP THEM.
PLEASE.
WATO-SAMA! THERE'S...
...SOMETHING ODD COMING OUT IN THE DISTANCE!
KADOYUKI!
THAT TREE TRULY IS BAD NEWS.
THE CLOSER WE GET TO IT, THE DIZZIER WE GET.
OUR BODY GETS ALL STRANGE!
DIZZY
!
PLEASE DON'T CHASE AFTER US ANYMORE.

.....?!

DINOSAUR SKELETONS!!

THEY'RE HUGE...

DINOSAUR?!

What?!

bump

WHOOOSH

SKELETON MONSTERS.....?!

crack
Fshhhhh
crack
WATO-SAMA!
THE TREE THAT THE SANOME PRINCE GREW....
IT'S REALLY TRUE!
IT WITHERED!
.....!
"PLEASE TURN BACK!"
POAP

SFX SNAP

FWIP
struck
tumbles
rattle
rattle
rattle

rattle
rattle
rattle
clack
SILENCE
AH! WELL, THAT FIGURES.
I NEED TO BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THAT CIRCUIT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
It recovered!
It's no use!
DIRECT CONTACT?
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO USE BREAKING THEM...
"SKELETONS" ARE BEINGS THAT HAVE ALREADY DIED, AFTER ALL...
ITS GAZE...
RAKAN AND I WON'T BE ATTACKED...
THEY'RE ONLY TARGETING THE GUARDS.
WHOOOM

FWIP
SCRAMP
crack
crack
Ssssss...
FWUMP
FWUMP
FWUMP
THEN WE'LL BE THE BAIT.
Huh.
YEAH, I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
RAKAN, THE TRAP.

TWACK
GUYS, PLEASE.
PLEASE STOP THEM FROM MOVING!
PLEASE!
SFX whooosh

WHOO
OSH
fwish
fwish
fwish
GRIND
TWIST
GRIND
FSSSSS
ARE WE GOOD?
....THEY'RE STILL GROWING.
THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BIND THE DINOSAURS UP UNTIL THEIR NECKS.
EH?
IT'S WITHERING...

...THORN TREE...!
THE "ENERGY-ABSORBING"...
OH NO!
CHIGUSA ....!
drip

IT'S OKAY.
IT WILL TURN BACK INTO AN ORDINARLY PILE OF BONES.
BY ADDING MY AYAME BLOOD HERE AND REVOKING ITS WORDS...
THIS SKELETON'S "POWER" TO MOVE...
...IS IN THIS STATEMENT, WRITTEN WITH THE AYAME PRINCE'S BLOOD.
.....
quiet

YOU BEINGS WHO HAVE ALREADY DIED.
BY ORDER OF THE DEATH GOD,
GO BACK TO SLEEP.
JUST AS YOU ONCE WERE.
BE AT PEACE.
quiet

Thud
THEY STOPPED...?
EVERYTHING'S OKAY NOW?
SEEMS LIKE IT.
AKIICHI.
CAN YOU GET ME A BAMBOO TUBE?
RUSTLE
drip
YEAH... I'M ALL RIGHT.
BESIDES, IT'LL HEAL SOON.
RUSHES OVER
CHIGUSA! YOUR ARM!
You made such a big cut!
HUH?
OK...

"IT DOESN'T EVEN HURT."
"SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY..."
"...EVEN IF I GET HURT, RAKAN."
.....
"IT'LL HEAL SOON ANYWAY."
"BESIDES,"
LIKE I DID IN THE PAST.
...THAT IT DOESN'T MATTER IF MY BODY GETS HURT,
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN...
OR THAT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WERE HURT ANYWAY,
I...
...MAY BE DOING THE SAME THING I DID IN THE PAST...
.....
...RAKAN.

THIS IS MY ABILITY.
A HANDY POWER I CAN USE.
FSSH...
HUH?
IF I CAN BE OF HELP,
THEN I WANT TO FIGHT USING WHATEVER MEANS I CAN.
ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU SAID, RAKAN?
USE...
...WHATEVER WE CAN TO THE FULLEST.

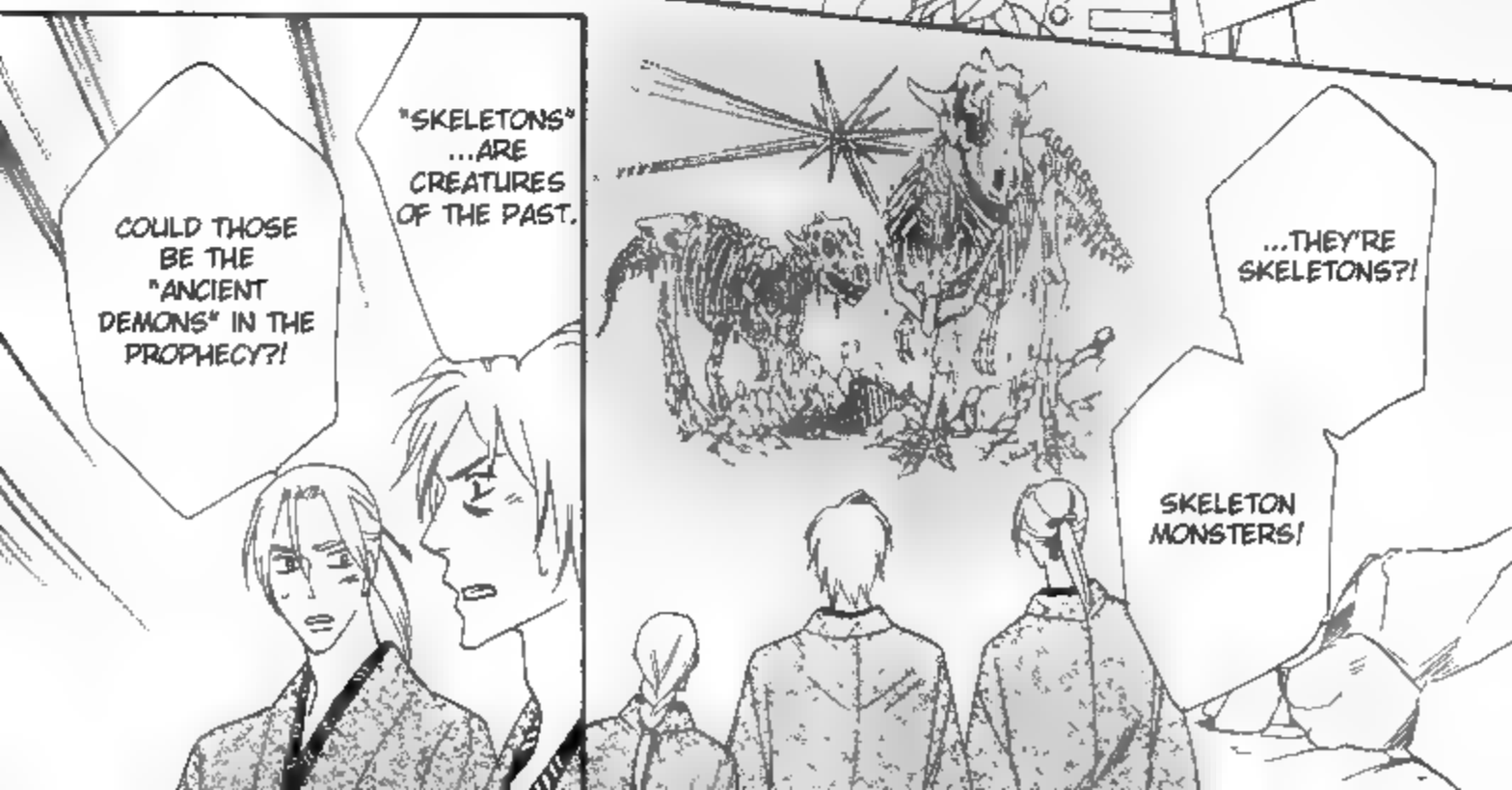
...I WILL PROBABLY GET HURT,
I KNOW IT GRIEVES YOUR HEART,
OR ACT AS YOUR SHIELD AT TIMES.
BUT...
I WON'T HESITATE TO USE IT IF NECESSARY.
.....
...CHIGUSA...
...DOESN'T MIND..!
...SACRIFICING HIS OWN BODY.
ALTHOUGH...
...WHAT HE'S DOING MAY BE SIMILAR...
YES.
HE REALLY IS DIFERENT.
.....FROM THE CHIGUSA I FIRST MET.....
MY BODY...
...IS ALL YOURS, THOUGH.
Oh yeah.
Well, I guess it can't be helped.
Sorry, Narushige.

RAKAN.
PLEASE BEAR WITH ME,
SORRY.
...TO SAVE THIS WORLD.
...WISH...
BOTH OF US...
CHIGUSA.
USE IT AS YOU WISH,
FINE.
...OKAY.
WE'LL GIVE IT OUR 'ALL.
...THAT'S RIGHT.

MY PRINCE...!
OKAY.
SURE.
Go right ahead
Lucky~
DON'T SAY THAT OUT LOUD!
What a mess
CAN WE HOLD HANDS?
To replenish your health with my sanoma power
NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS STICK CLOSE TO YOU.
A LARGE SKELETON MONSTER APPEARED IN YOUR AREA JUST NOW!
HUH....
KARAKU-SAN?
Karaku-san's voice?
YOUR MAJESTY?!
HUH? HOW DID YOU KNOW....?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

IT SEEMS TO HAVE APPEARED AT THE OTHER VILLAGES AS WELL.
...WAS SHOWN.
A PROJECTION ...
...OF YOU AND THE SKELETON BEASTS FIGHTING AMONGST THE THORN TREE...
!
ANOTHER ILLUSION SHROUD APPEARED.
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO'S ILLUSION.

IN THE "PROPHECY"?
COULD THOSE BE THE "ANCIENT DEMONS"


COULD THOSE BE THE "ANCIENT DEMONS" IN THE PROPHECY?!
"SKELETONS" ...ARE CREATURES OF THE PAST.
...THEY'RE SKELETONS?!
SKELETON MONSTERS!

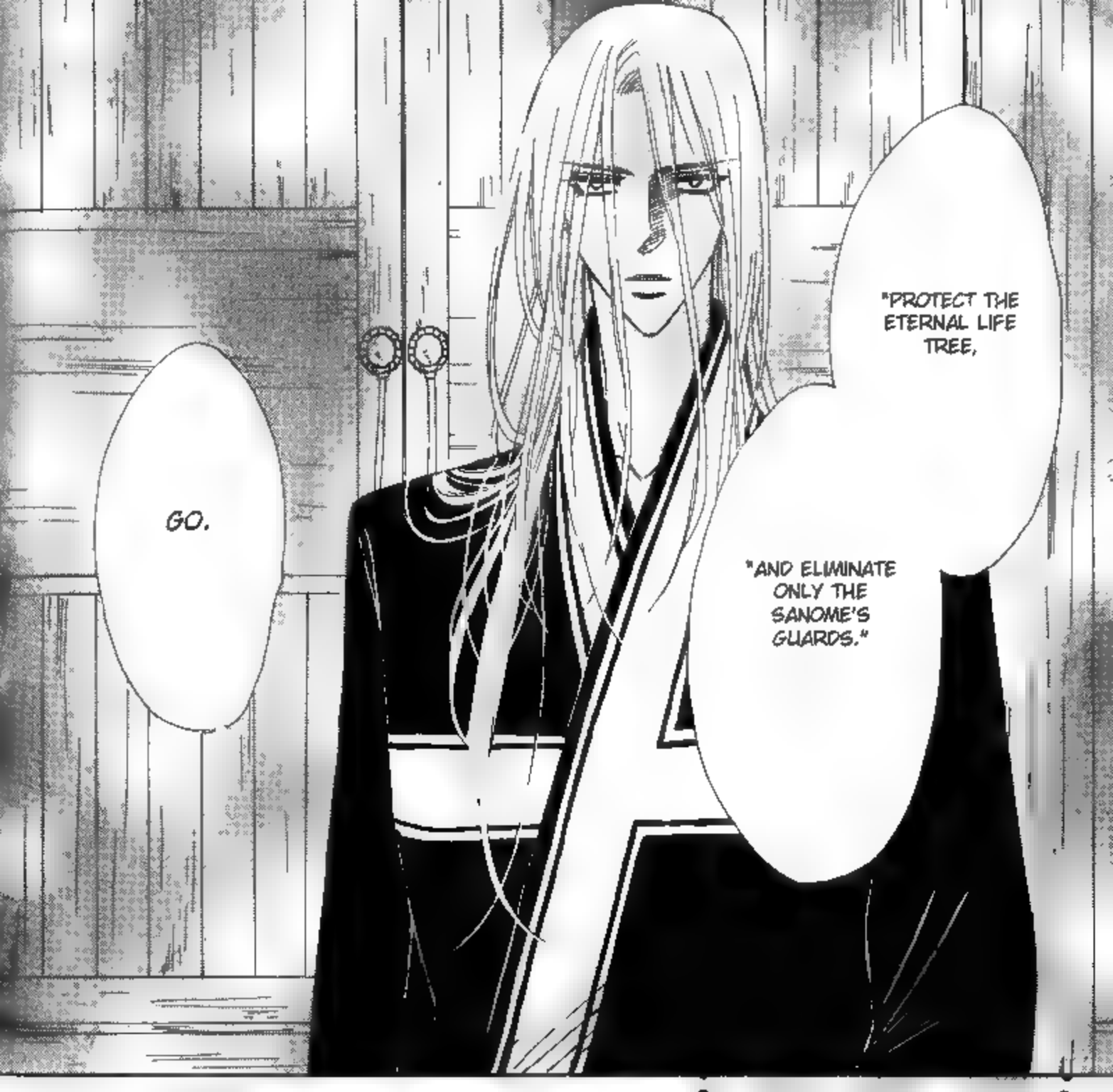
BELIEVE!
WE HAVE HOSHIMI-NOKOTO-SAMA ON OUR SIDE.
DO NOT FEAR!
EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY!
IT'S JUST AS THE PROPHECY SAYS.
EVEN THE STORM IS ACTUALLY COMING.
WE HAVE THE CHILD OF GOD ON OUR SIDE.
THE SANOME PRINCE
AND KINREI-SAMA AND THE AYAME PRINCE...
...ARE PLANNING TO DESTROY THIS WORLD...
WILL TAKE CARE OF KINREI-SAMA
AND THE AYAME PRINCE FOR US!

HE'LL GET RID OF THE BAD GUYS FOR US!
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE SANOME PRINCE WILL DEFINITELY DEFEAT HIM
.....
HM.....
THEY CAN'T DO ANYTHING THEMSELVES.
WELL, THAT'S HOW PEOPLE ARE.
For better or worse
SHEESH.
PEOPLE ARE SCARY!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? THOSE GUYS CLING TO OTHERS.
See.
Stop being so cold to humans, guys
They're so cruel.
TO THINK THEY USED TO WORSHIP THOSE TWO SO MUCH.

....DON'T CHANGE AT ALL?
...SPEAKING OF WHICH...
...WITH ME...
HMMM....
THIS DOESN'T SIT RIGHT...
HOW SHOULD I FIGHT THEM?
...GOING TO ATTACK KINREI-SAMA AND THE PRINCE, AREN'T YOU?
YOU'RE...
WHAT IF...
EVEN IF WE DESTROY HOSHIMINOKOTO'S "MOON"
AND ABOLISH THE "STRINGS"
WHAT IF KINREI AND THE PRINCE...

MORE IMPORTANTLY,
RAKAN'S PLANTS...WON'T THEY ALL WITHER IN HERE?
AH! YOU'RE RIGHT!
Even the seeds?!
WHAT DO WE DO...?
HUH?
BUT....
THAT SHELTER HASN'T WITHERED, THOUGH?
That's a plant, isn't it?
TIME HAS PASSED SINCE IT WAS GROWN,
SO IT'S BECOME MORE LIKE STONE.
JUST LIKE THE "BONE NET BRANCHES".
EVEN GUNS AND TOHJI'S BOW ARE OKAY...
OH, IT'S TRUE.
WHAT ABOUT THE SEEDS? WILL THEY BE OKAY?
They haven't withered yet, though.
THE SEEDS ARE DORMANT, SO THEY'LL BE OKAY.
BUT FROM THIS POINT ONWARDS...

WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO NOW?!
...WILL ALL DIE?
YOU MEAN NEWLY-GROWN PLANTS...
THIS
IS AN UNDYING MAN-EATING PLANT
TAKE IT, ALONG WITH THE STONE PUPPETS.
AND THE NUMBERED PUPPETS


"PROTECT THE ETERNAL LIFE TREE,
"AND ELIMINATE ONLY THE SANOME'S GUARDS."
GO.

WHERE DID THAT VOICE COME FROM?
WHAT IS THAT?!
!
WHAT?
WAAAH! WHAT ?!

THERE. HUH?
North-northeast from here.
The Tauma village.
IT'S COMING CLOSER!!
A WIND DRAGON... ?!
LOOK--
YEAH.
IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
YES...HM?
IS IT ANOTHER CREATION OF THE PRINCE?
A TORNADO?

...THAT IF WE STAY STILL NEXT TO THE MIRROR VINES, WE SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT.....
AS I RECALL, THE PRINCE'S LETTER SAYS....
GET IN THE SHELTER, EVERYBODY!
THAT'S....
!
SFX Rooar
CHO
MP

MY NAME IS "SHIRANAMI",
A SERVANT OF THE SANOME PRINCE.
THE WIND DRAGON IS GONE!
THE SERPENT...
...SAVED US...?!
WOW
THE SANOME PRINCE'S SERVANT!
SHIRANAMI -SAMA,
Yep.
You see ,+?
THANK YOU!
"Mitama sama."
It's Shiranami

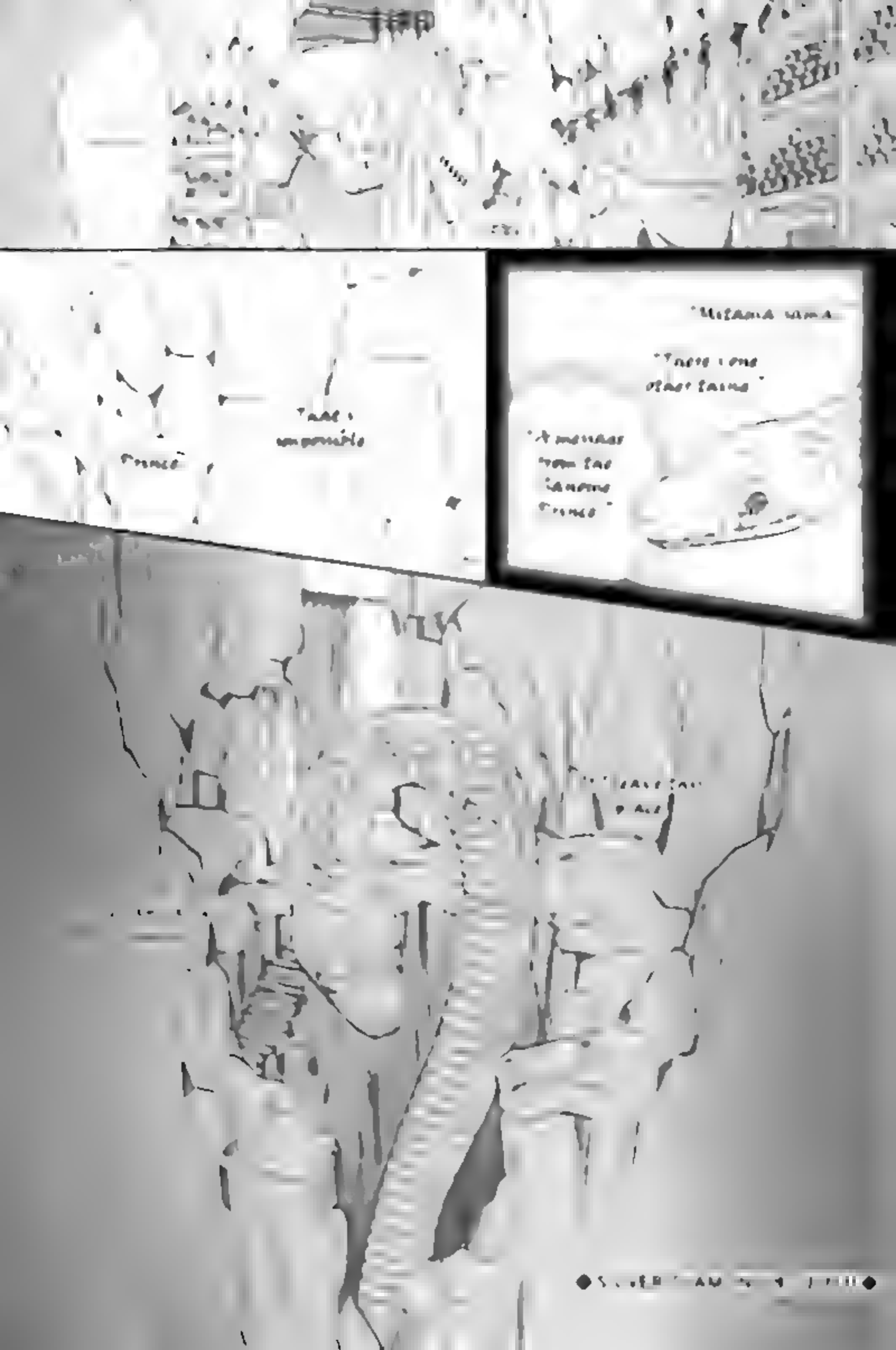
A message arrived.... just now.
...from Senroh Chigusa and the Sanoine Prince.
--Yes, very well.
We shall tell the remaining serpents...
to go on patrol without getting close to Senroh.
.....Come again?
What?
There's one other thing...
Mitama-sama.
.....
THE WIND DRAGON JUST NOW...
...AND THE SKELETON PUPPETS TOO....
THERE'S....

THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THEM...
THOSE SKELETON PUPPETS
..ARE THE "ANCIENT DEMONS"?
"THOSE
"ARE THE ANCIENT DEMONS FROM THE PROPHECY"
THROUGH THE ABYSS

I JUST THOUGHT THAT I NEEDED TO CREATE SOMETHING STRONGER THAN KINREI'S STONE PUPPET
THAT THING..
I DIDN'T CREATE THEM!
I JUST THOUGHT..
I JUST "THOUGHT"..
THAT THING WAS JUST CREATED BY CHANCE..
FOR THAT PURP..OSE...
DRIP
!
...RAIN?
HUH?
?
SOMETHING COLD FELL DOWN JUST NOW....

?
IT'S RAIN.
YEAH.
IT'S TRUE.
THE WATER THAT FALLS FROM THE SKY?
RAIN?
...ARE GETTING DARKER AND DARKER....
THE CLOUDS...
...IN THE SKY ABOVE THE CAPITAL....
WE NEED TO GET GOING!
THEY'RE STORM CLOUDS!

I SENSE A TORNADO IN THE DISTANCE
I HAVEN'T CREATED ANYTHING
I HAVEN'T
DONE ANYTHING
NOT THE STORMS OR ANYTHING
THOSE
ARE STORM CLOUDS?
DON'T TELL ME IT'S NATURALLY OCCURRING ?!
ISN'T THAT WHAT "WE" ARE FOR ?!
HOSHIMIJOKOTO SHOULDN'T HAVE THE "POWER" TO MANIPULATE THE WEATHER
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
...THE "PROPHECY" IS REAL ..?!
DON'T TELL ME



A breather (mainly for me)
A pillow fight commenses!
THEN BREAK UP INTO TWOS AND PLAY ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS, GUYS!
But only with rock and paper
SHOULDN'T WE HAVE SOMEONE KEEP A LOOKOUT OUTSIDE?
ROCKS GO TO THE CLOSET SIDE, AND PAPERS GO TO THE ENTRANCE SIDE, OKAY?
Divide yourselves
NO, APPARENTLY IT'S OKAY IF IT'S ONLY FOR A SHORT WHILE.
WE SHOULD HAVE FUN EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.
And we have Kuro, the Shinjuku, and the Tsubaki's
Rock and paper!
CHIGUSA! LET'S PLAY ROCK PAPER SCISSORS!

• The screentone on Chigusa's kimono is SE-1036 No matter how you look at it it looks like chain links, but I still wanted to use it anyway His obi is L-1269

• The screentones on Rakan's kimono are my favorite classy flower, SE-890, and the cute, adorable, and expensive looking SE-60.
The very adorable dotted design on the pillow is L-1248 • The one on Narushige's lapels is the cute yet sophisticated C-233 Its flowers' shapes are very classy~!

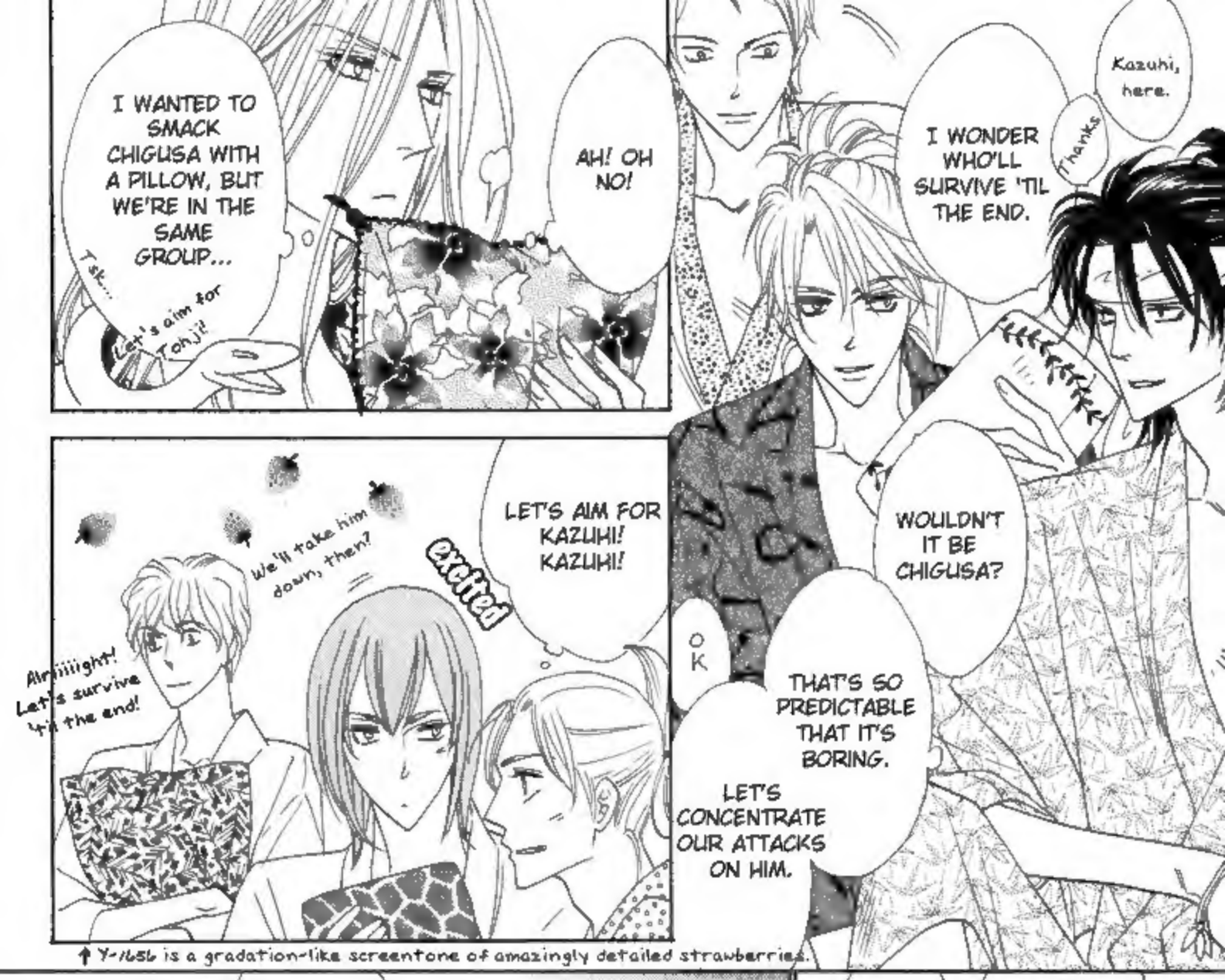
• The screentone on Tohji's kimono is S-659 It's an old design which I strangely like. I've always wanted to use it onto a kimono, so I'm very pleased right now The pillow is the simple and cute AB-442
Ah~ I never get tired of looking at the screentone on Rakan's pillow, it looks sooooo cute! Using it on square cushions is truly the best! That's what I think anyway!

ROCK AND PAPER!
IT'S NICE TO SEE HIM SO TRANSPARENT, THOUGH...
THAT GUY IS SERIOUSLY AN IDIOT SOMETIMES...
DISAPPOINTED
YOU'RE IN THE ROCK GROUP, THEN, CHIGUSA.
Over there!
OH NO!
We're going to get separated!
Conditioned Reflex
Okay~
IF YOU GET HIT BY A PILLOW, YOU'RE OUT OF THE GAME, OKAY?
THE ONES THAT REMAIN UNTIL THE END OF THE GAME WINS! THEY'LL BE EXEMPTED FROM LOOKOUT DUTY TONIGHT.
If you catch it, then you're safe.
Gotcha
AND THE WINNING GROUP WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM THE NEXT CLEANUP DUTY!
WHO DOESN'T HAVE A PILLOW?
Yuugo, over here.
IT'S ONE PILLOW PER PERSON~
Pass it around.
I'll throw it to you.

• Wah~ Akiichi's is rather plain but it's sooo cute!! CB-399!! I'm so glad I used it~! Even Yuugo's gender-neutral (?) kimono is cute!! Y-1746!! The pillows Miya and the two of them are holding is L-1428. Yuugo's obi is TH-825, and the screentone on the other pillow he's holding, TH-829, is so cute that I used it onto Goushi's pillow as well. It's so cute that I'd love to have a pillow designed like this in real life!

• The screentone on Miya's kimono, C-57, is not very memorable so it's not applied to large areas, but I love using it for kimonos.

• Ah! The screentone for pillow at the right of Akiichi is SE-392. Ahh~ The area to apply the screentone almost wasn't enough to convey the refined cuteness of its leaves design. ^ Oops. ^^ • The screentone for the futon behind Goushi is the cool and lovely SE-91 (My 31st Favorite Halftone).


I WANTED TO SMACK CHIGUSA WITH A PILLOW, BUT WE'RE IN THE SAME GROUP...
Tsk...
Let's aim for Tohji!
AH! OH NO!
I WONDER WHO'LL SURVIVE 'TIL THE END.
Kazuhi, here.
Thanks
WOULDN'T IT BE CHIGUSA?
OK
THAT'S SO PREDICTABLE THAT IT'S BORING.
LET'S CONCENTRATE OUR ATTACKS ON HIM.
LET'S AIM FOR KAZUHI! KAZUHI!
excited
We'll take him down, then?
Alrrriiight! Let's survive 'til the end!

↑ Y-1656 is a gradation-like screentone of amazingly detailed strawberries.

I'LL TAKE EVEYONE BUT RAKAN DOWN.
THEN WE'LL BE THE ONLY TWO LEFT, AND I CAN ENJOY A PILLOW FIGHT WITH JUST THE TWO OF US...
WE CAN THROW AS HARD AS WE CAN, RIGHT?
what a nice game!
YEAH, SINCE WE'RE JUST PLAYING WITH PILLOWS~
YEAH...
I wasn't paying attention.
HUH? YOU'RE IN THIS GROUP?
Not on Rakan's side?
CAN'T BE HELPED.
Untoward goals.

• Kazuhi's kimono is BS-921. This screentone ↑ that looks a lot like it is L-792. Isn't its unwavering cuteness so cute?!

• Shouji's lapel in the first panel is SE-254. It looks like crepe, I love it! The screentone used on Narushige's pillow, S-771, also quite old. It's a lovely blend of simple and glamorous. •Hakubi's pillow is also the quite old SE-385. Rokurou at the back's pillow is L-1419. It oddly makes me want to use it on small objects... Chigusa's pillow is L-794, which I believe definitely looks nice on floor cushions!! I can't get enough of the feelings of mellowness it gives off!! It's so~ cute! Keiji's lapel is Maxon S-758.

• Oops, I forgot to mention. The pillow Tohji has in his hand is AB-654. The state of the leaves and the details of the stems are superb. Its details make it look much cuter.

WOOOSH
AS HARD AS I CAN, RIGHT?
YEP!
SL
AM
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
WHAT?
IT'S THAT SERIOUS OF A GAME?
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!
We're just playing don't take things that hard
WHY THE HECK ARE YOU PLAYING SO SERIOUSLY?
I JUST REALLY WANTED TO WIN....
SORRY, I COULDN'T HLEP IT,
BECAUSE IF I TAKE DOWN EVERYONE EXCEPT RAKAN, THEN WE CAN HAVE A BATTLE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US IN THE END...
THEN HE'LL COME AND HIT ME WITH A PILLOW.
YOURE WAY OF THINKING IS OUT OF BOUNDS.
You're out of the game.

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Sujiura Shiho

Volume 20 Chapter 60

brought to you by

Amato Empire

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